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the 1990s, the incidence of *S. flexneri* has increased in the United Kingdom [10]. In the United States, *S. flexneri* has been reported as the most common serotype in children with acute bacterial dysentery [11].

There is a paucity of data on the epidemiology of *S. flexneri* in the United Kingdom. In the 1970s, *S. flexneri* was the most commonly isolated serotype from patients with acute bacterial dysentery in the United Kingdom [12]. In the 1980s, *S. flexneri* was the most commonly isolated serotype from patients with acute bacterial dysentery in the United Kingdom [13].

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24053
Ile
The Ile of Ladies

herausgegeben nach einer HS des

Marquis von Bath zu Longleat,
dem **MS addit. 10303** des **Britischen Museums**
und **Speghts Druck von 1598**

von

Jane B. Sherzer, Ph. D. (Berlin)

Geoffrey Chaucer, London



Berlin
Mayer & Müller

1903

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Meinen Eltern
gewidmet.

Dem MARQUIS VON BATH, der mir seine kostbare HS
freundlichst geliehen hat, der PROFESSORIN VIOLET JAYNE für
ihre copie der HS 10303 im Britischen Museum, den Herren
Dr. GARRICK, Mr. WARREN und Mr. BICKLEY für ihre bereit-
willige unterstützung, als ich im Britischen Museum arbeitete,
allen diesen spreche ich meinen wärmsten dank aus.

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Überlieferung.

“Chaucer’s Dream” erschien zuerst im druck in Speghts ausgabe, “*The Workes of our Antient and Lernet English Poet, Geffrey Chaucer*” 1598. Jede spätere ausgabe ist entweder direct oder indirect auf Speght begründet, mit abweichungen, die nur aus der willkür oder den verschiedenen auffassungen der herausgeber entstanden.

Um unser gedicht vom “*Book of the Duchesse*” zu unterscheiden, fügt Speght dem titel des letzteren die bemerkung hinzu, “*mistermed heretofore Chaucer’s Dreame*”.

Francis Thynne suchte dagegen zu beweisen, dass Speght beide gedichte unrichtig benannt habe: B. D. sollte “Chaucer’s Dream” heissen, unser gedicht aber “The Temple of Glasse”, ein titel, den er selbst in einer HS gesehen hatte (Ausc. Chauc. Soc. ser. II vol. 13 s. 30). Speght gab aber in seiner zweiten ausgabe (1602) nur insofern nach, dass er “mistermed heretofore” änderte in “commonly entituled”. Der name “*The Ile of Ladies*”, den ich weitaus passender finde, scheint von Mr. Bradshaw¹⁾ herzustammen.

Ausser Speghts druck sind aber auch 2 HSS vorhanden. Die eine (L) zu Longleat in der Bibliothek des Marquis von Bath (n. 256), folio, papier, in 47 spalten geschrieben, ungefähr aus der mitte des 16. jahrhunderts. Es ist ohne zweifel die HS, die Francis Thynne gesehen hat. Der titel ist von einer anderen hand auf einem separaten blatt vorgesetzt und lautet: “The Temple of Glasse, Compilid by

¹⁾ Prof. Skeat sagt in einer zuschrift an mich: “I suppose Mr. Bradshaw gave it the title of Isle of Ladies”.

Geoffray Chaucer". Von derselben hand ist auch das verspar am ende.

HS = H, Addit. 10303 (Brit. Mus.) wurde 1836 bei "Heber's Sale Lot 496" verkauft. Der auktionskatalog vermutet, Speght habe H gebraucht; das ist aber nicht glaublich, weil in H viele fehler vorkommen, die in Speght nicht stehen (s. u.). H ist eine folio HS, papier; sie enthält 16 seiten in doppelten spalten, eng beschrieben, nach Mr. Warrens urteil von einer hand aus der zweiten hälfte des 16. jahrh.

Der titel lautet hier: "The death of Blaunche, the Dutchesse of Lancaster fyrst wief to Jo: of Gaunte iiii sonne Edward the thyrde, written by that honorable Englyshe Poet Geoffery Chaucer Esqer." Die verwechselung unseres gedichtes mit Chaucers "Traum" betreffend die Herzogin Blanche ist offenbar eine alte. Nachträglich erst ist von einer anderen hand ein zweiter titel eingefügt worden: "no doubte mysse Intituled for this should be Chaucer's Dreame and his dreame the death of ye dutchesse."

Kritik der Überlieferung.

Gemeinsame fehler von H und S: attayned (named) 598 — entamed (veraltet) *L.* Seinge 1061 — sayinge *L.* came — 1241 — can *L.* small 1241 — smyle *L.* them 2157 — him *L.* sowne 2165 — so *L.*

Kein anderes par HSS hat einen gemeinsamen fehler.

Dagegen stehen **einzelfehler** — oft durch den rhythmus kenntlich — in H gegenüber richtigen lesarten in LS: came 419 — con *LS.* no Life (:give) 617 — not lyve *LS.* done 754 — ordayned *LS.* he 877 — she *LS.* ever 937 — over *LS.* wiche 1018 — shuche *LS.* had 1135 — bad *LS.* that eingeschoben 1388. be done f. 1482. here f. 1504. sodeynly 1804 — devoutlye *LS.* shortly 1808 — hartelye *LS.* fyld 1924 — full *LS.* soule 2018 — sothe *LS.* all maner of 2045 — do *LS.* ben f. 2067. done (: sonne) 2072 — rune *LS.* whom 2112 — wiche prince *LS.*

concluded 2146 — amended *LS.* and f. 2209. soft f. 2225. the f. 2226. 2 zeilen f. 1494—1495.

Fehler in S gegenüber LH: making 24 — wakinge *LH.* of 32 — oft *LH.* hindere 46 — him deare *LH.* kene 48 — bene *LH.* nise 314 — wyse *LH.* not 329 — mot *LH.* aware 383 — unaware *LH.* wy 391 — my *LH.* like 556 — life *LH.* reine 679 — paine *LH.* rear 712 — ever *LH.* bounds 715 — bordes *LH.* legging (S. erklärt in d. glossen, dass dies wort lodging bedeutet) 816 — loo-ginge *LH.* thus 862 — thence *LH.* night 971 — wyght *LH.* both 1052 — beth (be H) *LH.* new 1053 — now *LH.* came 1246 — can *LH.* at 1246 — all *LH.* his 1433 — her *LH.* disfame 1457 — dishonor *LH.* these 1526 — ther *LH.* while 1597 — myle *LH.* where 1881 — when *LH.* maked 1906 — waked (watched H) *LH.* auise 2190 — wise *LH.* my f. 2209. do f. 2229. 2. v. f. 1237—8.

Fehler in L gegenüber HS: trothe 249 — The other *HS.* there 401 — three *HS.* nex 605 — nam *HS.* had 696 — at *HS.* playe (: language) 740 — vsage *HS.* And t. 742. herye 773 — heavy *HS.* feautres 776 — faultes *HS.* here (hër) (: eare) 787 — there *HS.* b. he. c. 806. towe 889 — towne *HS.* That 1052 — take *HS.* by f. 1311. them all (: sorrowe) 1545 — the morowe *HS.* d. dwe it 1581. the f. 1729. wexe f. 1871. where (: iorneye) 1948 — waye *HS.* nurneyes 1989 — turneys *HS.* wise (: turneys) 1990 — wayes *HS.* where 2147 — were *HS.* his 2206 — her *HS.*

Oft sind auch abweichungen absichtlicher art zu beobachten, die offenbar angebracht wurden, weil man die alten wörter nicht mehr verstand.

So in H gegenüber LS: swete 50 — hasty *LS.* slepye 60 — slepe *LS.* cured 144 — eured *LS.* allotted 156 — alarged *LS.* gouernaunce 194 — purveaunce *LS.* as truest fr. 418 — our (your S) brother fr. *LS.* reyse 470 — rere *LS.* assured 798 — ewred *LS.* a seynt 942 — corseint *LS.* was 991 — as *LS.* tune 1012 — turne *LS.* resighte 1242 — consyte *LS.* cauled a boate 1294 — abashed anon a

boote (afz. abaisser, niederlassen) *LS.* death 1499 — tother (week) *LS.* pleasaunce 1675 — pesaunse *LS.* theyr greyf 1821 — the worde *LS.* Lamentation 1855 — weymen-tacyon *LS.* servinge 1954 — suinge *LS.* gan 1970 — gre(a)t (gerwan, praet. gerte > gret¹) machen) *LS.* light 2173 — lyke *LS.*

Ferner in **HS** gegenüber **L**: cure 42 — eure *L.* duringe (durense *S*) 1201 — onrewse *L.* cured 1940 — vred *L.*

Aus diesen listen ersehen wir:

1. *H* zeigt am auffälligsten das bestreben zu modernisieren.

2. In *S* finden sich am meisten nachlässigkeiten.

3. *L* hat von allen drei HSS die wenigsten einzelfehler. Zwar sind es einige mehr, als wir in der vorlage von *HS* nachweisen können. Aber es ist anzunehmen, dass manche gemeinsame fehler dieser vorlage in den erhaltenen HSS *H* und *S* durch nachträgliche besserungsversuche verwischt wurden. Da überdies *L* die älteste überlieferung ist, wurde sie dem texte zu grunde gelegt.

Metrik.

The Ile of Ladies ist in kurzen reimpaaren gedichtet, wie Chaucers *Dethe of the Duchesse* und *Hous of Fame*. Nur am ende des gedichtes stehen als envoy vier stropfen von fünffüssigen jamben. Von diesen besteht die erste strophe — ein nachruf an die lady, der das gedicht huldigt — aus sechs parweise gereimten zeilen; die drei anderen aber zeigen den rime royal. wobei der letzte vers immer wiederholt ist ("ballade"). Das reimpar am schluss ist nur ein schreiberspruch.

Beschaffenheit der senkung.

1. Auftakt fehlt oft, wie auch bei Chaucer. Zweisilbiger auftakt (*He him hurte*) steht 1846; doch ist hier wohl verschleifung in der senkung vorzuziehen.

¹) *Bells* Ausgabe London 1878, I s. 498 anm. 2, Skeat.

2. In der mitte des verses fehlt senkungssilbe, z. b. Herd, O God! whiche a payne 258, This mightye lord all in flowers 988, And no o word spoke he more 1042: ähnliches 56, 203, ~~659~~, 744, 1150, 1157, 1831 (?), 1974, 2002, 2041 (?), 2099, 2149, 2168, 2171.

3. An anderer stelle des versinnern fehlt eine senkung nur einmal zu rhetorischem zweck: Now deathe! deathe! twy or thrye 640.

In der mitte des verses steht zweisilbige senkung (epische cäsur), z. b. For to my lady they made suche feaste 443, And of the ladyes I had a syght 1350: ähnlich 67, 121, 437, 641, 1908, 2073.

Zweisilbige senkung steht vielleicht: From earlye the ryssinge of the sune 2071, wenn da nicht apokope des *the* angenommen wird.

Dabei ist abgesehen von scheinbar zweisilbigen senkungen, die beseitigt werden können durch verschleifung auf der hebung (z. b. *honor* 1503), oder in der senkung (z. b. *rydye eche* 1704), ausfall des zwischenvokals in dreisilbigem wort (z. b. *countenaunce* 1706), oder synaerese (z. b. *variaunce* 200).

Ferner sind abgezogen die synkope des vokals bei den flexionssilben es, eth, en, z. b. birdes 78, makes 1706. thin-keth 229, borne 282, 1436; und die apokope des end-e, die sehr häufig ist (vgl. unten bei der Sprache der Reime). Anderseits ist das end-e im versinnern durch den rhythmus noch oft als tönend erwiesen u. z. bei fem. subst. z. b. youthe 362, quene 724, chere 1111, 1595; bei schw. subst.: trusse f. 1555, harte 1640, name 1666, 2227, marriage 1987, Ile fz. ile 1977, 2199, barge 1999, nature 2222; beim dativ: thinge 887; bei adj.: straunge 75, wyse 524, poore afz. povre 1662, pale fz. pale 1836, smale 1863, large 2063; whiche 511, least 1064, same 1099, 1362, 1380, 1525, 2120, newe 1814, drye 1897. Ebenso bei den possess. adj. there 2153, here 2218; bei adv.: longe 41, 310, 328, 1274, plesauntlye 356, here 375, sodenlye 392, agayne 403, nyghe 503, behinde 1151, sone 1925, ofte 2081; bei praep. abowte 2161; bei

verben, im praes. ind.: aske 216, wene 2179; im perft.: slepte 26, 190, wolde 1963, stinte 2090, sunge 2139; im inf.: passe 65, mete 275, here 448, save 535, were 952, breke 1254, departe 1490, hye 1552, retorne 1583, dye 1679, lyve 1683, 2217, please 2108, tuche 2153.

Manchmal ist end-e nach massgabe des rhythmus sogar zu lesen, wo es nicht mehr geschrieben erscheint, z. b. bei den subst. night[e] 189, 1813, sent[e] 283, hart[e] 704; beim dat.: bed[e] 2166, concent[e] 2194; bei den schw. adj. least[e] 1064, old[e] 2076; bei den plu. adj. all[e] 951; bei der praep. witheout[e] 230, 1193, 1322; bei den verben nist[e] p. 860; graunt[e] p. 1192, wold[e] 2100; bei dem praet. part. found[e] 325.

Beschaffenheit der hebung.

Taktumstellung im versanfang ist häufig, z. b. Séinge the 287, Lývinge at 319, Áfter our 324, Ónly withe 352, Bétter then 354, Wéninge to 373, Hávinge those 376, Faýrest of 2207.

Taktumstellung nach cäsus, z. b. wakinge ne 53, after ther 55, sicknes or 365, lady that 398, smylinge is 886 u. ö.

Accentverschiebung an anderer stelle des verses, z. b. in der dritten hebung: soundíngē pleasaunce 50, ladýes to 204, walkíngē allone 289, gladlý avised 295, seíngē ther 447, áfter his 1591, und in der vierten hebung, also auf dem reime: thinkíngē 23, wakinge 24, turníngē 77, singíngē 78, coníngē 163, 171, woníngē 282, dyíngē 519, sowníngē 520.

Darnach ist der rhythmus unseres gedichtes nicht wesentlich loser als bei Chaucer.

Allitteration.

Ich unterscheide hierbei:

a) Volkstümliche allit., in formeln unmittelbar zusammengebunden, ist selten, z. b. still-stone 583, many moo 656, wonder well 664, wele-wo 1027, dyne-daunce 2142, hawkes-houndes 2171.

b) Rhetorisch klingende gruppen von alliteration in zwei versen nach einander, z. b. Wiche when he hard in suche a heate He fell for sorrowe and was syke 1497, This wo not ceassed to counsell went This lordes and for that ladye sente 1738; ähnlich 716, 1051, 1663.

Auch dieser bestand bleibt hinter der vorliebe volkstümlicher dichter für allit. weit zurück.

Satzübergang

von einem reimpar zum anderen ist sehr häufig, sogar in der weise, dass ein hilfswort wie *was* oder *had* im folgenden verse nachhinkt, z. b. Byfell me so when I avised *Had* the yle . . . 124; ähnlich 885 u. ö.

Kühn ist auch der satzübergang, bei dem der versschluss zwischen subst. und davon abhäng. genetiv fällt: This mightye lord, all in flowers Of diverse coloures many a payer 989; oder zwischen verb und dazu gehörige kurze adverbbestimmung: And sayd ther was nothinge blame In her, but she was vertuus 809: ähnlich 887. Dieses brechen der reimpare ist höfische gepflogenheit.

Desgleichen der häufige satzschluss innerhalb des verses. Solcher findet sich nicht bloss auf caesur, wie auch oft bei volkstüml. dichtern, z. b. As ye maye se, √ where fore echone 431; ähnlich 837, 1180, 1604, 1930; sondern auch zwischen dem 1. und 2. fuss, z. b. Bot all to th'erthe they went at once To knele — √ They spared not for the stones 440; ähnlich 706, 950. Oder zwischen dem 3. und 4. fuss, z. b. In wordes few and sayd; √ Good hele 1197; ähnlich 2043 u. ö., meist mit sayd, saying.

Die metrische form verrät also an unserem epiker, obwohl er ein sowohl bei höfischen wie bei volkstümlichen dichtern gebräuchliches versmass wählte, in mancherlei hinsicht doch die schule Chaucers, zu der auch die ganze einkleidung stimmt.

Die sprache der reime.

Die Reime der Ile of Ladies sind schon zum teil behandelt worden von Herzberg, Lemcke's jahrb. VIII, 133 f.;

ten Brink, Chaucer Studien I, 165—168; Brandl, Englische Studien XII, 175f.; Hagedorn, Über die Sprache einiger nördlicher Chaucer-schüler, Göttingen 1892, 20f.; Lounsbury, Studies in Chaucer I, 482—486; öfters von Skeat, zum letzten mal in seinem Chaucer Canon 1900, 137.

Inzwischen haben unsere zwei HSS nicht unwesentliche neue lesarten geboten. Die folgenden ausführungen erstreben vollständigkeit.

Quantität der vokale.

Unreinheit ist nicht sicher zu erweisen. lever (: ever 906, 1222) kann kürzung des ê vor comparativ-suffix erfahren haben. reson (: done pp. 1488) kann noch ô haben, wie auch bei Chaucer. vertuus (: use 809, 1889) und adventurus (: thus 219) zeigen schwankende quantität des suffixes, wie im 15. jahrh. zu erwarten. Wenn *H* 617 life: give reimt, so ist der text verderbt; *L* und *S* lesen richtig lyve: give. Wenn well mit knele 1060, hele 363, 574, 796, 1198, 1634, 1665 gebunden wird, so erklärt sich dies aus der gemein me. nebenform wêl, die auch Chaucer gebraucht, z. b. *P. of Foules* 393, *H. of Fame* 406 u. ö.

Qualität der betonten vokale.

Unreine reime sind hier unleugbar. u: o in tungen: songes 1660, yonge: amonge 205; und û: o in found pp.: understand praes. 1. pers. 494.; lond 1403. Dies ist eine freiheit, die auch bei Chaucer vorkommt, z. b. Monk's T. 3460; Nun's Priest's T. 4070; Prol. W. of B. T. 379.

èè: éé in bee pp.: see ae. sê 297, also im wortauslaut, wie auch bei Chaucer; ferner in eche: seche 616, fele ae. fêlan: dele ae. dêl 485; leve ae. lêaf: greve 1879; sleve ae. slêfe: leve ae. lêaf 1195. Ähnlich bei Chaucer, ten Brink § 326.

Über î: ê, z. b. in nyne ae. nigon: grene 1861 handle ich bei den dialektreimen.

ðð: óó sind nicht einmal bei Chaucer gesondert, noch weniger hier.

distroyed (: conclude) 735 steht natürlich für destru(ie)d; masse *H* (: promesse) 2118 für messe.

Hiermit sind für die grammatische verlässlichkeit unseres reimers die grenzen angezeigt.

Von dialektischen eigentümlichkeiten sind innerhalb dieser fehlergrenzen folgende hervorzuheben.

Ae. *a* vor einfachem nasal bleibt. name: blame 530, 807, 1344, 1576, 1680. Vor *ng* ist es *o* in songes: tungen 1659; amonge: yonge 206. Vor *nd* finden wir understand: found 493, lond: founde 1404 und hande: avysaunte 1883. Das stimmt zu Chaucers gebrauch, nur dass in einem so viel kürzeren denkmal, wie das unsere ist, einmaliges *hand* mehr auffällt als in den vielen reimen Chaucers.

Ae. *ie, i* > *i* (aus der 2. 3. praes. sgl.) in gefe: lyve 618 wie bei Chaucer.

Ae. *â* in der regel verdumpft; auch vor *w* in know: trowe 162, bowe 782, nach Chaucers art. Aber daneben auch nach art anderer me. dichter knowe: lawe (lowe *LS*) altn. lagu 323, overthrowge: wave 1154, vgl. Morsbach Me. Gr. § 135, Anm. 9 und Luick, Anglia XVI, 452f.

Ae. *ê* < wgerm. *â* reimt auf éé in cheke: sike 515, dread: fead 2220, seade ae. sæd: hede ae. hêdan 1899, feede 1871, slepe: wepe 53, 728, 1706, crepe 1316, speche: seche 734, 1173, 1430, beseche 480, 1635, were ae. wêron: here ae. hêr 465, 475, 997, here ae. hî(e)ran 69, 802, chere 750, yere: chere 175, 793, 1076, 1142, 2094, here ae. hêr 239, 531.

Doch reimt solches ae. *ê* auch auf èè in brethe: deathe 394, 403, 604, 928, 1712, 1721, 1770, there (here *L*): eare 787.

Dieser lautbestand ist anglicischer als bei Chaucer.

Ae. *êa, êo, ê + g, h* reimt nicht bloss nach Chaucers art auf *î*, seltener *ei*, highe ae. hêah: dye altn. deyja 1163, spye 86 *L* (see *H* u. *S*), und lye ae. lêogan: certefye 2060;

sondern auch auf e: eyne ae. êage: quene 659,: grene 352, 1720,: bene (kene *S*) 47; see zu altengl. sêgon: bee 719.

Wenn wir aber in den reimen ae. êa, æ + g, h: e blosser reimunreinheiten sehen wollten, so würde dieser punkt aus der sonstigen reimweise des dichters, die solche starken vokal-unreinheiten meidet, herausfallen. Wollten wir gar nördliche formen, ee und see, darin sehen, so würde der übrige lautbestand der reime schlecht dazu stimmen. Diese art von reimen wird gedeutet durch den oben unter den unreinen reimen genannten reim nyne: grêne, so wie durch mehrere suffix-i, die mit e reimen, worüber mehr bei den unbetonten vokalen. Es bleibt daher nur übrig, an die neigung der Suffolk- und Norfolk-dichter im 15. jahrh. und schon zu ende des 14. zu erinnern, î mit e, ê zu binden, worüber zuletzt Brandl, Archiv CVI 396, gehandelt hat.

Ae. y wurde regelmässig i (213, 547, 650, 691, 1183, 1736, 1888, 2097, 2229) und nur einmal e (sherte: herte HS 1717) wie so oft bei Chaucer. Also wieder die schriftsprache des 15. jahrh.

Qualität der unbetonten vokale.

Die suffixe sind beim dichter im allgemeinen noch intakt, z. b. corrages: ages 2029; cuntrye: sea 1389, : thre 1268, : be 1420; jorneye: daye 1528, : praye 1453, : waye 1947; suertye: me 1227; turneys: wayes (H) 1989; counsell: avayle 1755; marvayle: sayle 229, 699, 1148; travayle: availe 154; champayne: playne 2064; mountayne: plaine 1734, certaigne: payne 165, : grayne 1874, 1892.

Doch ist mehrfach auch schon abschwächung des suffix-vokals eingetreten in der art des 15. jahrh., z. b. counsell: apele 1670; companye: be 108, 122, 732 und companye: lyne afz. ligne 1520, : savetye fz. sauveté 1574.

Abfall des end-e, obwohl im versinnern oft noch durch den rhythmus bekämpft, ist im reime bereits häufig vernachlässigt, ganz gegen Chaucers gebrauch.

Belege: bei verben im infinitiv: accorde: lord 1036, looke: toke 668, passe: was 1456, 1533, 1843, praye: day 1810, 2195, mise: is 61, springe: thinge 1897, singe: thinge 389, tell: befell 1340, :fell 1845. — im plural: stode: flode 1549, :good 1067.

Bei substantiven, wenn ae. schw.: smoke: woke 1301. — Ferner bei grace: was 1031, place: was 457, 1853, space: was 1941 (ähnliches bei Chaucer nur in *Sir Tophas* 1971 und 2021), armonye: joyouslye 718, :softelye 1830, companye: bye 2025, :crye 1726. Dass solches charakteristisch ist für unechte werke Chaucers, hat ten Brink, Chaucers Sprache und Verskunst § 327, gezeigt.

Consonanten.

Wieder hat der dichter mehrere unreine bindungen, mehr wenigstens als Chaucer, obwohl sie nicht über die freiheiten volkstümlicher dichter im 15. jahrh. (vgl. Guy of Warwick ed. Zupitza EETS. XXV 1875 Einleitung XII f.) hinausgehen, nämlich rome (roume): towne 1567, remember: tender 1116, 1417, skapes: undertakes 338 (even: fittene 1512 muss mit aussergewöhnlichem schwund des *v* gelesen werden).

Flexion.

Substantivum.

Chaucer hat einige beispiele der schw. pluralbildung auf en: oxen, pesen, toon u. s. w. doch immer knees. Dagegen findet sich hier knene: quene 294, 1780, :sene 436 (nur im versinnern knees 1570, 2215).

Verbum.

1. Ind. praesens 3. pers. sing. auf nördliches es (nur in 4 fällen in Chaucers reimen, in B. of the Duchesse 73, 257, H. of Fame 426, III, 818, und in mitte nördl. dialektrede Reeve's T. 4130) findet sich ziemlich häufig im verhältnis zur kürze des gedichtes: goes: up rosse 1290, 1524, prayse: playes subst. 2144, stondes: handes 375, :londes 331, straynes: paines 910. Doch auch nach Chaucers art goethe: wrothe 786.

Plur. praes. gone: none 744, sayne: twayne 496; sonst plur. praes. immer ohne endung.

2. Ind. praet. Der singular-vokal des praet. ist in den pl. getreten in shall: all 960, : fall 2234. Chaucer hat gewöhnlich shulle, doch auch bereits schon shal, vgl. ten Brink § 198.

3. Part. praes. Nördl. advysande *HS*: hande 1884, lyvand: servand *HS* 1630 steht neben Chaucerischem fitting (*S*³¹), sittinge *LHS*: looginge (legging *S*) 815, wakinge (making *S*): thinkinge 24, wepinge: partinge 1687.

4. St. part. praet. mehrsilbiger verben ohne n (auch wenn keine nasalis im stammschluss) wie bei Chaucer: befall: all 315, holde: wolde 405, know: trowe 162, : bowe ae. boga 782, overthrowghe: wave 1154, toulde: wolde 1170; daneben vereinzelt (wie bei Chaucer) nördlicheres islayne *HS*: paine 1114.

5. Inf. mit -n nur bei einsilbigen verben in Chaucers art, z. b. sayne: payne 558, 880, : playne 600, : twayne 242, 1714.

Was von Chaucers sprachgebrauch abweicht, wie $y > i$, $\hat{i} : \hat{e}$, $\hat{a} > a$, -and, spricht für einen etwas nördlicheren dichter als Chaucer war, wie schon Herzberg, ten Brink und Brandl dargethan haben.

Schreibung.

Vergleichung der Longleat *HS* (*L*) und des *Ms* addit. 10303 (*H*) mit Speghts text 1598 (*S*).

Quantität der betonten vokale.

Bezeichnung der länge. Für länge wird gewöhnlich die schreibung mit einfachem vokal in offener silbe gebraucht, allerdings ohne besondere consequenz. Doch kommt daneben auch die schreibung mit zwei vokalzeichen vor, namentlich in *S*, wo es sich um éé, èè und óó handelt.

¹⁾ Speghts ausgabe 1687.

ā geschr. aa in paas *L* (pace *HS*) fz. pas 277; paace *L* (pace *HS*) 787, 829, 913; paas *S* (passe *L* pace *H*) 518; afz. au > a saetty *H* savetye *L* safety *S* 1573, 2044 (suertyes *L*).

öö wird ausgedrückt

a) durch ee oder e in offener silbe, ee häufiger in *H* als in *L*, und in *S* noch häufiger als in *H*: man sieht wie sich diese schreibung immer mehr festsetzt, z. b. beleve *LH* beleeve *S* 27, 1508, 1684; besene *L* beseene *HS* 307, 2058.

b) durch ie, doch nur in den jüngerer kopien *HS*: piersed *S* pearced *L* percyd *H* afz. percer 791; relyeve *H* releve *LS* afz. relever 1938; sie inf. *S* see *H* 86.

c) durch ei in *HS*, sehr selten in *L* und fast nur in frz. wörtern: atcheived *H* a(t)cheved *LS* afz. achever 2, 1676; conceyved *LHS* afz. conceiveir 1664; greyf *H* (word *LS*) afz. grief 1821; mischeyf *H* mischeve *L* mischiefe *S* afz. meschief 1744; obeisaunce *HS* obsessiaunce *L* afz. obeisance 2; seige *H* seage *L* siege *S* afz. siege 456; auch in zwei germ. wörtern: beseyne *HS* besene *L* 1994, und theis *H* these *LS*. ae. þes 184, 257 u. ö.

d) durch ea, oft in *S* neben r, nicht so oft in *L*, selten in *H*, z. b. fead *LH* feed *S* ae. fēdan 2222; seamyd *H* semed *L* seemed *S* 1016; weake *L* weke, weeke *HS* ae. wicu 871, 1498; besonders oft neben r: breadinge *L* brē(e)-dinge *HS*. ae. brēdan 2231; cheare *S* chere *LH* afz. chere 410, 590 u. ö.; deare *LHS* ae. deor 2172; heare *S* here *LH* ae. hī(e)ran 57, 409, 496, 589, 801, 1439, 1639, 1856.

Me èè erscheint als

a) ea nicht nur in *great* und in franz. wörtern wie bei Caxton, sondern in viel grösserem umfang; daneben aber steht die neutrale bezeichnung durch e in off. silbe: beake *H* beke *LS* 1861; beastes *HS* bestes *L* 1735; beate *LH* bet *S* 1849; heast *H* behest *LS* 1751; ceas(s)e *LHS* 758; cleane *S* clene *LH* 425 (cleane *H*), 1504, 1650, (cleane *H*), 1736, 1859, 1921; cleare *L* clere *HS* 1817; dead(e) *HS* ded *L* 525, 599, 602, 605, 1505, 1645, 1650, 1777, 1877; heale *LH* hele *S* 35; heale *HS* hele *L* 133,

262, 349, 364, 573 u. ö. Deutlich hat diese erscheinung in *H* und *S* wieder fortschritte gemacht gegenüber der älteren abschrift *L*.

b) als *ee* in *HS*, nicht in *L*: feest *H* (feast, fest *LS*) 1976, 2152; pees *S* (peace *LH*) 1009 (einmal); prees *S* (presse *L* presse, prease *H*) 981, 986, 1001; prees *HS* (prese *L*) 1145; prees *H* (presse *L*, preace *S*) 1317.

c) als *a*, vereinzelt vor *r*: bares *L* (beares *HS*) 340; ware *L* (were *HS*) 1643.

Die 3. Klasse des me. ê, aws. æ < westgerm. â, ausserws. ê, erscheint ausser in der neutralen schreibung *e* in off. silbe:

a) als *ee*: selten in *L*, am öftesten in *S*, z. b. seede *HS* seade *L* 1871, 1882; seede *H* seade *L* sede *S* 1896, 1899; sleepe *S* slepe *LH* 22, 53, 1316, 1346, 2224; speech *S* speche *L* speatch, spetche *H* 504, 777, 853, 1029, 1173, 1635, 1943.

b) *ea* sehr oft in *S*, seltener in *L* und zwar durchaus neben *r*: breath *HS* brethe *L* 394, 403, 1712, 1721, 1770; breath *S* breth(e *LH* 604, 1157; breath(e *LS* breth 928 *H*; dread *LH* drede *S* 2220; feare *HS* fere *L* 556; feare *LH* fere *S* 635, 970; feare *L* fere *HS* 1152, 2092; feare *H* fere *LS* 859, 896; feare *S* fere *LH* 2188; ready, read *S* redye, red *LH* 2047, 2234; yeares *H* yeres *LS* 97, 100, 329, 340, 343, 531, 1411; yeares *HS* yeres *L* 1076, 2094; yeare *S* yere *LH* 793, 902, 1142.

Dieses bei Chaucer und in den dialekten schwankende ê wird demnach vorwiegend als offen gebraucht (anders im reime).

Me. ôô wird in *L* öfters *o* in off. silbe, in *H* schwankend zw. *o* in off. silbe und *oo*, in *S* gewöhnlich *oo* geschrieben, entsprechend der zeitlichen entwicklung des sprachgebrauches.

a) *o* in off. silbe: dome *LS* (doome *H*) ae. dôm 2023 u. oft.

b) *oo* z. b. bookes *LS* bokes *H* 821, 978, 2211, 2228; good *HS* (god *L*) 851, 2011; hookes *HS* (hockes *L*) 1159; lookes *S* lokes *LH* 352, 378, 774; looke *LS* loke *H* 668,

675, 1050, 2229; lookes *L* lokes *HS* 2218, 2225, 2232; loose *H* losse *L* lose *S* 1680; moove *S* move *H* (meve *L*) 2155; rood *LH* (rod *S*) 1702; roother *H* rother *LS* 1381 (vgl. Hölper s. 12); schoole *S* skole *L* schole *H* 1334.

c) ou, vereinzelt in Caxton (*bloud*), nur neben labialis, besonders in *H*: bloude *H* (blode *L* blood *S*) 441, 512 (blood *L*), 515 (blud *L*); bourdes *H* (bordes *L* bounds *S*) 715; ffloude *H* (flode *L* flood *S*) 1550.

Me. òð wird in *L* schwankend zw. o in off. silbe und oo geschrieben; in *H* schwankend zw. o in off. silbe, oe im auslaut und oo, oa; in *S* häufig o in off. silbe.

a) o in off. silbe, oe (nur in *H*): fo *S* ffoe *H* (foo *L*) ae. fāh 500, 622, 772 (ffooe *H*); go *S* goe *H* (goo *L*) 422, 1310; go, ago *LS* goe, agoe *H* 983, 1185; mo *LS* moe *H* 694, 771, 1278; mo *S* (moo *L*) moe *H* 656, 1326 (more *LS*), 1434, 1548 (more *L*); no *LS* noe *H* 67, 1606; so *S* soe *H* (soo), so *L* 621, 1028, sonst so *H* 595, 633; wo (einmal woo) *S* woe, (wooe) *H* (woo) wo *L* 414, 499, 521, 536 u. ö. bode *HS* (boode *L*) ae. bād 1527; bote *S* (boot(e) *LH*) ae. bāt 230; bones *LHS* 1200, 1932; lothe 1400, 1622 u. s. w. to *HS* (two *L*) ae. tō 705 (einmal).

b) oo ausser in obigen fällen: moost *H* most *LS* ae. māst 1366; oo *L* (a *HS*) ae. ān 1688 (einmal); oore *H* ore *LS* ae. ār 698; woofull *L* wofull *HS* 598, 601.

c) oa, noch nicht bei Caxton, die regel in Tottel, nicht in *L*, siebenmal in *H*, einmal in *S*: boate *H* (boote *LS*) ae. bāt 1294; coast *S* (cost(e) *LH*) afz. coste 1724; hoare *H* (hoore *L* hore *S*) ae. hār 1412; hoast *H* (hoost *L* (h)ost *LS*) afz. host 1538, 1579, 2132; noates *H* (nottes *L* notes *S*) afz. note 1858; throates *H* (throt(e) *LS*) ae. prote 1857.

Me. î wird geschrieben:

a) ae. î, ÿ als i oder y in off. silbe in *LS*, als ie nur in *H*: lyfe *LS* (lief *H*) ae. lif 394, 535, 556 (like *S*). 655, 1161, 1225, 1601, 1715, 2060, 2179; wyse *LS* (wyes *H*) ae. wīs 313, 533, 1130, 1134 u. ö. nylene *LS* (nyene einmal *H*) ae. nigon 1861.

Als längebezeichnung wird vor t öfters gh eingeschoben nach Chaucerischer art: whight *L* whyte *HS* ae. hwit 1703; wright *L* write, writte *H* writ(e) *S* ae. writan 719, 1796; endightinge *H* enditinge *LS* afz. enditer 67; awaightinge *H* awaytinge *LS* afz. awaitier 902.

b) ae. êo, êa, îe + g, h ergibt ey, ye, i in *LS* auch ee in *S*, ey, ye in *H*: eyne, yene *L* eyen, eyne *H* een(e), yene, ey(e)n *S* ae. êage 47, 352, 592, 659, 1172, 1720, 1835; eye *LH* iye (einmal) *S* 628: highe *L* hye *H* high, hie *S* ae. hêah 85, 331, 1163, 1734, 1765; hight *LS* height *H* ae. hiehþo 991, 999.

Bezeichnung der kürze.

Nach kurzen vokalen wird der consonant verdoppelt, oder *ch* als *tch* geschrieben, *k* als *ck*, sehr oft in *H*, seltener in *L*, fast nie in *S*. Dabei ergibt sich kürzung:

1. vor d, z. b. dedd *L* (dead(e) *HS*) ae. dêad 514; (red) redd *L* redd *H* (red *S*) ae. rêad 351, 1815; spredd *LH* (spred *S*) inf. ae. sprædan 1816; thredd *H* (thred(es) *LS*) ae. þræd 1825.

2. vor t [vgl. att *H* (at *LS*) ae. æt 120 (in *L*), 428 u. ö.; cyttye *H* (cetye *L* city *S*) 1764, 1792; pyttie *H* (pytye, petye *L* pity *S*) afz. pité 555, 589, 1763, 1856; wittie *H* (wyt *LS*) ae. wit 548; witt *L* (wite *HS*) ae. witan 785], z. b. lett, (let) inf. *L* lett^a *H* (let *S*) ae. lêtan 785, 1181; nottes *L* (noates *H* notes: ð) afz. note 1858; shotte *H* (shoot, shott *L* shot *S*) ae. gescéot 741, 2173; wett *H* (weate *LS*) 1304; yattes (yates *HS*) 738, 753.

3. vor k, z. b. brecke *L* (breake *HS*) 1640; hockes *L* (hookes *HS*) 1159; syck *H* (syke *L* se(e)ke *S*) 872, 1050, 1497, 1760, 2178; wecke *L* (we(e)ke *HS*) 1049, 2177.

4. vor n, z. b. byne (einmal) *L* bynne *H* fast immer (ben *S*) 1218 u. ö.; tenne *H* (ten(e) *LS*) ae. tēn 1461, 1489, 2205.

5. vor ch, z. b. besetche *H* (bese(e)ch(e) *LS*) 479, 1636; spetche *H* (spe(e)ch(e) *LS*) 480.

Qualität der vokale.

Me. a < ae. æ erscheint als e, i, nach g in gedre *L* (gather *HS*) 370; together (togather) *L* together *HS* 1473, 1520 (togider *S*); lesse (analogie nach læst, lest) *LH* lasse *S* ae. læssa mit kürzung 46; messe *L* masse *H* mese *S* ae. mæsse, messe 2118.

Chaucers a vor l + cons. > au ist häufig, doch nur vor l(l), in *H*, seltener in *L*, nicht in *S*: cauled (einmal caled) *L* cauled *H* (called *S*) 334, 748, 765, 806, 891, 892, 934, 1271, 1917, 1955; (be)faull *H* (befall *LS*) 315, 343, 369, 436, 480, 903, 2231; waull *H* (wall *LS*) 72, 745, 751. 2228.

Chaucers a vor n, nn, m bleibt gewöhnlich bei *H*, schwankt manchmal zu o bei *LS*: con, selten can *L* can, gan(ne), einmal con *H* gan, con, einmal gone *S* 558, 637, 668, 699, 713 u. ö.; mon *L* man *HS* 302; Chaucers than = quam und tum, Caxtons than = quam und then = tum: then = quam *LH* than *S* 16, 303, 354, 825; then *LS* than *H* 870; sonst then = quam immer; then = tum findet sich nicht; Caxtons whan, seltener when: when *LH* whan *S* 755, 763, sonst immer when.

Chaucers o < a vor nd — bei Caxton o und a — bleibt sehr oft bei *S*, seltener bei *L*, fast wie bei *H*: hond *S* hand *LH* 781, 804, 1314, 1430, 1702, 1781, 1838; lond, land *L* land *H* lond, selten land *S* 238, 332, 755, 1292, 1397, 1404, 1579, 1612, 2019; sond *S* sannde *L* sand *H* 2020; stond, stand *LS* stand *H* 236, 237, 331, 375, 493, 1701.

Ae. ô vor ht — bei Chaucer ou geschrieben — erscheint als au manchmal in *L*, ou fast immer in *HS*, z. b. nought *LS* naughte *H* 26, 551; nawght *L* nought *HS* 583, 609, 1834 (naught *H*); thawght *L* thought *HS* 780, 812, 1337, 1349, 1591; unsawght *L* vnsoughte *HS* 867.

Selbst festes ô + ft wird aus analogie manchmal in *L* als aught, in *S* als ought geschrieben, was für dessen aussprache charakteristisch ist: sawght *L* sought *S* soft *H* ae. sôfte 1312; sauftelye *L* softly *HS* 1315, 1328 (southly *S*), 1742 (saftelye *L*). Auch erscheint lowe *LS* statt lawe *H* 324.

Me. e vor r in geschl. silbe bleibt bei *H* sehr oft stehen, wird gewöhnlich a in *L*, und schwankt bei *S* zwischen e und ea, a: carved *L* kerued *HS* 2182; earthely *L* erthly *HS* 92; arthe *L* erth *HS* 1728; far(e) *L* farre, ferre *H* fer(e) *S* 882, 1728; hart(e), selten hert *L* hart, hert *H* heart, selten hert oder hart *S* 142, 259, 303, 408, 428 u. ö.; hard pp., selten herd *LH* heard *S* (wsäch. hi(e)rde) 52, 137, 258, 998, 1382, 1727; marvayle *LS* meruayle *H* 229, 1559 (marvell *L*); pefarre *L* prefferre *H* prefer *S* 2111; starve *L* sterve *HS* 1066, 1236; smarte, selten smert *L* smert, selten smarte *H* smert, smart *S* 260, 407, 792, 1132, 2126; swerte *L* swarte *HS* 1864; warr *L* werre *H* wer *S* 2112.

i > e: cety(e) *L* (cyttye *H* city *S*) 1764, 1792; petye *L* (pyt(t)y(e) *HS*) 1763, 1856; weten *L* (witten *HS*) 60; wete *L* (wyt *L* wote *H*) 240.

Ae. und altn. y, \hat{y} , bei Chaucer i, y und oft auch e erscheint in *L* als i, y, e, selten u; in *H* oft als u, seltener i, e; in *S* meist als i, nicht so oft als e oder u: besy *L* busy *HS* 2188; burdes *L* byrdes *HS* 714; hir, her, hur *L* hir, her *H* her *S* 267, 296, 1208, 1289, 1436; kyrk(e) *LS* church *H* 1308; chur(t)ch(es) *LHS* 2135, 2141, kyrke 2067; lest *L* list *HS* 286; liste *LS* 1186; shett *L* shutt *H* shit, shutt *S* 738, 753; shirte *L* shert(e) *HS* 1717.

Chaucers o + l > ou, häufig in *HS*, selten in *L*: gould *H* gold(e) *LS* 1824, 2046; shoulde *HS* schulde *L* 780, 820 u. ö.; toulde *H* tolde *LS* 652; toulde *L* tolde *HS* 1170, 1513; would(e) *HS* wold(e) *L* 269, 271 u. fast immer; die analogie form coulde erscheint in *H* 86, 174 u. ö., aber in *LS* fast immer die ältere form couthe 11 u. ö.

Normanisches au vor mb, nd, ng, nc, nt erscheint noch sehr oft in *LH*, fast nie mehr in *S*: chaumbre *L* chaumber, chamber *H* chamber *S* 1302, 1324, 1472; comaunde, comandement *L* comaund *H* command, commaundement *S* 211, 452, 1010, 1539; saunde *L* sand(e) *HS* 1593, 1790; staund *L* stand *HS* 1056; chaunge *LH* change *S* 1628, 1768, 1820; daunger *LH* danger *S* 472; la(u)ngauge *L* language *HS* 448, 739 (langage *S*), 1018; straunge, ein-

mal strange *L* straunge *H* strange *S* 332, 1819, 1826, 1982; countenaunce *LH* — ance *S* 677; obeysaunce *LH* — ance *S* 678; pleasaunce *LH* — ance *S* 322, 492, 974, 2216 u. dergleichen ö.; romaunse *L* romance *HS* 977; graunt *LH* grant *S* 1056; obeysaunt *LH* — ant *S* 968; servaunte *LH* (einmal servant *H*) servant, einmal servaunt *S* 389, 802, 849, 1002; meist vor ng, nc.

Daher auch magre *L* neben normalem maugre *HS* 603, 611.

Endsilben.

a) Germanische (geordnet nach den consonanten, die unmittelbar auf den vokal folgen).

Ae. -hād Ch. -hede, *L* -hede (immer) *H* -hood(e) (fast immer) *S* -head (fast immer) 89 u. ö.

Ae. -el bleibt gewöhnlich in *HS* als le, in *L* oft zu ul geschwächt: appuls, einmal apples *L* apples *HS* (einmal appuls *S*) 345, 351, 357, 370, 376, 826; littull, littell *L* little *HS* 482, 777, 913, 1374, 1430 (f. *H*), 1909, 1941; mi(c)kle *LH* mikel *S* 1068.

Ae. -en bleibt in *HS*, wechselt mit on in *L*: bytton *L* bitten *HS* 2173; forgotton *L* forgotten *HS* 1956; writton *L* written *HS* 59, 921, 930, 1367, 2228.

Ae. -end(e) erscheint als -ant und -and in *L*, -and in *HS*: avisaunte *L* a(d)vysand(e) *HS* 1884; lyvenante *L* Lyvand *HS* 1630; thousannd *L* thousand *HS* 1517, 2205.

Ae. -m: fadome *LH* fathum *S* 991.

Ae. -ung, -ing Ch. -inge, in *LS* gewöhnlich -ing in *H* einigemal -eng: abyden *L* abydinge *HS* 1534; Dyngge *LS* Dyenge *H* 506, 519; obeyinge *LS* obeyenge *H* 2106; signifyinge *LS* Signifiēge *H* 1991; tarringge *L* tarrienge *H* tarrying *S* 999.

i der flexionsendungen ith, yd statt eth, ed, bei Caxton häufig, in Tottel fast verschwunden, ist noch in *LH* vorhanden, doch nicht in *S*, z. b. semid *LH* seemed 92 u. ö.

b) Romanische. Hier herrscht grosses schwanken.

Afz. -ail: travell *L* trauayle *H* trauayle, travell *S* 196, 1161, 1247.

Afz. -ial: especill *L* es(s)pecyall *HS* 2136.

Afz. -eil: counsell *LH* counsaile *S* 225, 742, 865 (counsayle *H*), 1471, 1654, 1737, 1755 (counsayle *H*); counseler *LH* counsailer *S* 1002.

Afz. -eille: marvell, einmal marvayle *L* merveyle *HS* 229, 699, 859, 1162, 1559.

Afz. -le: peple, pe(o)pull *L* people *HS* 1532, 1810, 1900, 1908, 1947, 2155.

Afz. -un: common *L* comen *HS* 582.

Afz. -ain: certaigne, sertaynge, certen *L* certeyne *HS* 165, 684, 713, 1892; soveraing, soverayne *L* souereigne *H* sovereign, souveraine *S* 621, 1408, 2109.

Afz. -ion (-ionem Lat.) Ch -ioun bleibt gewöhnlich in *LS*, wird oft -on in *H*: coronacyon *LS* coronacon *H* 1372; excusacyon *LS* excusacon *H* 1371; obligacyon *L* obligacon *H* obligacioun *S* 890.

Afz. -esse (-issa Lat.): abbas *L* abbes(s)e *HS* 1882, 1919, 1951; promes(s)e *LS* promyse *H* 1623, 1749; promes(s)e *LH* promise *S* 2117.

Me. -ous wird oft in franz. weise als -eux dargestellt, nur in *LS*: Joyeux, Joyoux, einmal Joyeuse *L* joyous, joyeux *S* joyous *H* 128, 295, 1070, 1204, 1298, 2154, 2160; perileuse *L* perilous *HS* 334.

Vorsilben.

Das alte praefix ge < ae. ge- ist fast verschwunden (vgl. Flexion).

In frz. wörtern ist die vorsilbe willkürlich ausgelassen, oft nach den bedürfnissen des metrum.

Für ad- u. s. w. vgl. Conss.

Zwischensilben.

Beispiele für schwächung, häufig in *L*, seltener in *HS*, und ausfall, öfter in *S*, nicht so oft in *LH*: acustemuance *L* accustoma(u)nce *HS* 256, und so wechselt e oft mit o, auch u: adventurus *LS* adventerous *H* 219; cuntrey,

berechtigte me. nebenform von *cuntre* (vgl. Behrens s. 82) nur noch in *H* u. *S*, sonst *country*, *countree* *S* *cuntery*, *cuntrye* *L* 476, 1420 u. ö.

Consonanten.

l: *coulede* *H* (*couthe* *LS*) ae. *cûpe* 11, 174 und fast immer, l eingeschoben durch analogie nach *should* und *would*; aber beim dichter ist l in *woulde* noch nicht stumm, denn es reimt *wolde*: *holde* 406, : *tolde* 651, 1169. *fault* *HS*, mit l aus dem Lat. *fallita*, *faute* *L* wie in *Ch.* und *Caxton* 254, 1088 u. ö.

from *L* *from*, *fro* *H* *fro* *S* ae. *fram* altn. *frâ* 882, 2166; sonst finden sich *fro* und *from* nebeneinander, wie in *Chaucer*.

r metathese: *bird(e)s* *LH* (*briddes* *S*) ae. *brydd* 78, 714 (*burdes* *L* *birds* *S*), 1840, 1852; *brast* *LHS* zu ae. *berstan* 594.

w bei ae. *hâl*: *whole* fast immer *HS* (*hol(e)* immer *L*) 2, 5, 34, 125 u. ö. mit w — vorschlag des 15. jahrh.; *whome* *HS* (*home* *L*) ae. *hwâm* 45, 770.

b gelehrt beigefügt: gewöhnlich in *H*, nicht so oft in *S*, selten in *L*, z. b. *doubte*, *dowt(e)* *LS* *doubte* *H* afz. *dute* Lat. *dubitâre* 199, 221, 893, 2121; *subtilly*, *subtiltie* *HS* *sotilly*, *souttyllete* *L* afz. *sotilleté* Lat. *subtilitatem* 82, 231.

f gelehrt als ph geschrieben: *phesauntes* *H*, älter *fesaunce* *LS* 354.

f > v nach dem verb: ae. *lif* > *live* (fast immer) *L* (*lif* *H* *life* *S*) 394, 1161 u. ö.; v > f: *sa(e)fty* *HS* (*savetye* *L*) 1573; f > gh nach dunklem vokal und vor t: *sawght* *LS* (*soft* *H*) 1312.

d gelehrt sehr selten in *LS*, häufiger in *H*: *advauntage* *H* *avauntage* *LS* afz. *avantage* 1191; *adventuer* *H* *aventure* *LS* afz. *auenture* Lat. *adventûra* 7, 1299, 1667, doch *adventurus* *LHS* 219; *advysed* *H* *avised* *LS* fz. *aviser* Lat. *advisâre* 113, 123, 299 u. ö., doch *advised* *L* 140, 749.

d wird nach n (analog *round* u. a.) vereinzelt in *LH*, nicht in *S* angeschoben: *swoundinge* *H* *sowning(e)* *LS* ae.

swôgende 520; soundes *LH* sounes *S* fz. son Lat. sonum 2133, 2159.

d > th intervokalisches vor er steht manchmal in *LH*, selten in *S*: hether *LH* hider *S* ae. u. Ch. hider 178, 207, 1613; thether *LH* thider *S* 270; togather, togedre *L* togather *H* togather, togider, gadred *S* ae. gædrian 370, 1520, 1883; consyther *L* consyder *HS* fz. considerer 2083.

þ intervokalisches > d: fadome *L* (fathome *HS*) ae. fæðm 991; fedred *S* (fethered *LH*) ae. fidered 1823; tyding(e)s *HS* (thithinges *L*) altn. tîðindi 723. Anders quoth, quod vgl. "Flexion".

s adverbiall beigefügt, oft in *H*, nicht so oft in *L*, selten in *S*: againse, agayne *L* agayne, against *HS*. solches s > st durch formzwang mit superlativ 80, 470, 1091; amonges *L* amonge *H* amongst *S* 892; besydes *H* beside *LS* ae. besīdan 19, 191; ekes *H* eke *LS* ae. êac 1303; roundes *L* round *HS* fz. rond 2161; sithence *H* sythe *LS* ae. siddan 1637; togithers *H* together *LS* 462; towardses *H* towarde *LS* 745; vpwardes *L* vpward *HS* 1315; u. s. w.

ch wird in *H* fast immer tch geschrieben, auch nach urspr. langem vokal: lytch 120, ritch 119, sutch 88 u. ö.; ch > sh, französierende schreibung, in arshebyshope *L* (archbyshopp *HS*) 2138.

ch > k in nördl. art nur in: kyrk *LS* (church *H*) 1308; kyrke *LHS* 2067.

g vor e, i in fz. wörtern, wie auch in Caxton, wird in *H* fast immer dg geschrieben, in *LS* gewöhnlich noch g: abredge *HS* abrege *L* afz. abregier 2181; bardge *H* barge *LS* afz. barge 1374, 1377 u. ö.; chardge *H* charge *LS* afz. charge 251, 1373 u. ö.; lardge *H* large *LS* afz. large 252, 681 u. ö.; maryadge *H* marriage *LS* afz. mariage 1364, 1987, 2052, 2118; partrydge *HS* partrices *L* fz. perdrix 354; vyadge *H* viage *LS* afz. voiage 1363, 1428.

g > c in (be)gan durch das bekannte missverständnis: can, con *L* gan, can *HS* 389, 558, 637 u. ö.

Schwanken von h im anlaut, französischer weise, in *LH*, nie in *S*: armonye *LH* harmony *S* afz. harmonie

718, 1830; erbe *L* herbe *H* he(a)rb *S* fz. herbe 1862, 1866, 1869, 1884; erytage *L* heritage *HS* afz. heritage 1192; omage *L* homage *HS* afz. homage 1122; onors *L* honor *HS* 1429; ooste *L* ho(o)st *HS* 1365, 1771; oweres, oures *L* howers *H* houres *S* 987, 1240, 1273, 1869, 2023; afz. alas erscheint einmal in *L* als holles (alas *HS*) 1675.

Synkope des inlaut. *k* in tane (nördl. art) *LS* takenne *H* 890; tane *LHS* 1171, 1651.

Flexion.

Substantivum.

Sächs. genetiv nicht bloss bei femininen, sondern auch noch bei death(e)s *LHS* 1681; shipp(e)s *LS* (shypp *H*) 715; torches *LH* (torch *S*) 1905 u. ö.

Sächs. genetiv vom plural einmal: *churches LS church his H* 2141.

Plur. alter neutra noch ohne endung: thing *S* (thinge, thinges *L* thinges *H*) 496, 846, 1834; mit plur. *e*: ye(a)re *HS* (yeres *L*) 2205; yere *LHS* 343, 531.

Das plur. *n* erscheint in: eyne, yene *L* eyen, eyne *H* een(e), yene, eyn, eyen, ein *S* 47, 352, 592, 659, 1172, 1720, 1835; knene *L* kneene, knene *H* kneen *S* 436, 1780.

Pronomina.

Myn(e) *LS*, fast immer vor folg. *h* oder vok. wie bei Chaucer; my *H*, fast immer (428, 579 u. ö.); thine (vor vok.) *LS* thy *H* 2214.

Chaucers ye, Caxtons ye bleibt gewöhnlich in *LS*, wird oft you in *H*: ye *LS* you *H* 326, 494 u. ö.; ye als obj. erscheint einmal in *LS* (you *H*) 1183.

Chaucers hire (sing.) Caxtons here (hir) erscheint oft in *L* als hir, seltener in *HS*, sonst her (hur): hir, her, hur *L* her, hir *HS* 267, 296, 1208, 1289, 1436; poss.: hir, her, einmal herrs *L* her, hir, zweimal hers *H* her, einmal hers *S* 149, 152, 199, 1123 u. ö.

Chaucers hit, it, Caxtons it: nur *L* hat noch hit 92, 135, 154 u. ö.

Chaucers und Caxtons they: *LS* they (einmal the *L*) *H* the, eine geschwächte form von þai, weil unbetont 746, 1573, 1950, sonst they.

Chaucers here (plur.) Caxtons theire (her, hir): *L* ther, zweimal her *HS* theyr (her einmal *S*) 88, 93 u. immer.

Chaucers hem, Caxtons them (hem): *L* hem (him) fast immer *HS* them, hym, hem 91, 156, 206, 337, 415 u. ö.

Caxtons those erscheint in: those *LS* (theis *H*) 376; those *L* (theis *H* these *S*) 661; those *H* (this *L* These *S*) 1738; those *LHS* 381.

Verbum.

1. Tempusbildung.

a) Starke verba: schwach geworden: hēld pp. *H* neben hold *LS* 1256, 1749; laughte *H* (lōwgh(e) *LS*) 858, 1944, 2043, einmal laught *L* (loughe *HS*) 32; leste ae. lēosan *LS* (lost < ae. losian *H*) 1682; rist *H* (rose *LS*) 1204; walked *L* walkt *H* (welke < ae. wēolc, walke *S*) 830, 945, walkt *HS* (welke *L*) 1312; waxyd, waxt *H* waxed (wex) *S* (wex, wox *L*) 300, 1896; umgekehrt wurde stark: quo(c)ke (analog tok) ae. cwacian *LHS* 558, 847.

b) Vokal des praet. sgl. übertragen in den plural: bare *HS* (bere *L*) 1786; chese *LS* (choose *H*) 1682; can(e) *LS* canne *H* 433; shal(l) *LHS* 57, 1046; wote *LS* wott, wote *H* 326, 344; was *S* (were *LH*) 707 (vgl. Zupitza G. of W. EETS. xxv-vi, 350).

c) Gram. wechsel des praet. plur. übertragen in den sgl.: quod *L* (quoth *H* quoth), qd *S* 189, 208, 795 u. ö.

d) Praet. vokal übertragen in den ind. praes.: wol(l) (selten wil(l)) *L* (wyl(l)) sehr selten woll *H* (wyl(l)) wol(l) *S* 33, 46, 66 u. ö.; praet. form, vokal und consonant, übertragen in das praes.: must *H* (mote *LS*) 329 (not *S*, schreibfehler), 417.

e) Formübertragung aus einer ablautreihe in eine andere: came (fast immer) *H* (come *LS*) came *S* 260, 266, 382 u. ö.; hange *L* honge *HS* (analogie nach singen) 1868; wex(e) *LS* (nach der redup. klasse) woxe (regelrecht) *H* 142;

wex *S* (woxe *LH*) 896; wexe *HS* f. *L* 1871; forgott(en), forgotton, (forgetten) *L* forgott(en) *H* (forget), forgotten *S* (part. pft. nach beren) 232, 1206, 1406, 1736, 1956.

f) Formübertragung aus dem ind. in den inf.: wote (wytte) *H* (wete) wote *S* (wyt *L*) 240, 498.

g) Formübertragung aus dem part. pft. in den ind. praet.: spoke *S* (spake *LH*) 584; spoke *LH* (spake *S*) 1042.

h) Formübertragung aus dem part. pft. in den inf.: slaye *L* (slea *HS*) 2212.

2. Flexionsendungen.

Praes. ind. sing. 2., *L* oft *s*, *HS* st: desyers *L* desyrest *HS* 2219, 2226, 2233; dwelst *HS* (dwell *L* optativ) 610; bei praet. praes. in *L* ohne endung in nördlicher art: shall *L* (shalt *HS*) 610;

Wottest (analog 2. pers. st. u. schw. verba) *H* wost *S* (wyst *L* praet.) 617.

3. In *LHS* erscheint häufig -es, nicht so oft -eth (-ith *H*): alle haben goes 1290, 1524, prayes 2144, stondes 331, 375, straynes 910, skapes 338, undertakes 337; auch bares 340, beres 359, desyers 486, dreames 43, duers 336, induers 1712, has *LS* (hath *H*) 1214, lettes 197, lyves 622, longes 1228, 1750, makes 1706, nedes 247, 615, 832, offers *H* (offer(e)d *LS*) 1117, prayes (prayed *L*) 2007, puttes 195, syttes 1040, sleas *H* (sleeth(e) *LS*) 198, wenes 43; dagegen mit -th: fedith *H* (fedes *L* feeds *S*) 355; goethe *L* goith *H* go(e)th *S* 786 (goeth *H*), 1149, 1295, 1569, 1589; growethe *L* growith *H* growth *S* 339, 346; kepeth(e) *LS* kepith *H* 348; nedethe *L* nedith *H* needeth *S* 1381; norysheth *H* (nurryshes *L* nourishes *S*) 353; pleassethe *L* pleasith *H* pleaseth *S* 844; pray(e)th *HS* (prayed *L* praet.) 1460; reynegthe *LHS* 2113; semeth(e) *LS* semith *H* 203, 465; uppdressyth *H* (updresses *S* upressed *L* praet.) 663; thinketh(e) *LHS* 1335.

Plural-n findet sich selten: faren *H* (fare *LS*) 571; passen *L* (passeden *S* passed *H*) 90.

Plural be(en) (häufig) und ar(e) — selten — finden sich in allen fassungen, z. b. 84, 234, 242 u. ö.

Praeteritum plur. mit altem -en selten: *passeden S* (passed *H* passen *L*) 90; *sayden LHS* 1164; *shippeden L* (shipped *HS*) 1981; oft ohne endung, z. b. *ceast HS* ceased *L* 1914; *told HS* (toulde *L*) 1513.

Imperativ-eth im plur.: *beth L* (be *H*, both *S* schreibfehler?) 1052.

Der infinitiv hat fast immer *n* verloren; selbst die ursprünglichen einsilbigen infinitive erscheinen oft ohne *n*; doch *bene* 1581 u. ö.; *gone* 862; *sene* 250 u. ö.; *sayne* 558, 600, 880, 1714.

Participium.

Praesens fast immer -ing; doch *avisaunte*, *lyvenante L* *advysande* 1884, *lyvand* 1630 *HS*, also in nördl. art, aber franz. geschrieben.

Praet. Die ursprüngliche starke endung -n ist öfters verloren gegangen.

Doch erscheint -n manchmal in einsilbigen wörtern, z. b. *been*, *bene* 137, 165, 166 u. ö.; und auch in mehrsilbigen, z. b. *borne* 282, 1436; *broken* 1854; *byttton L* *bytten HS* 2173; *forgotten LHS* 1406 (*forgott H*), 1736, 1956; *knowne* (know) *L* *knowne*, *knownen HS* 868, 1427; *tane LS* *takenne H* 890; *tane LHS* 1171, 1651; *writton L* *written HS* 59, 921, 930, 1367, 2228.

Das alte präfix *ge-* oft in *Ch.*, selten in *Caxton* vorkommend, später wieder häufig in *Tottel*, ist in *L* ganz verschwunden; es steht nur in *Islayne HS* (*slayne L*) 1114 und *yronne S* (*rune L*) 2072.

Resultat: *L* steht auch der sprache des dichters näher als *H* und *S*, bleibt daher zugleich in dieser hinsicht grundlage der textform.

Quellen.

Das gedicht stellt zwei träume dar. Der erste traum geht von v. 71—1301, der zweite von v. 1346—2167. Sie

werden getrennt durch das erwachen des dichters und zusammengehalten durch den sinn und ein loses rahmenwerk, bestehend aus einer siebzig-zeiligen einleitung und einem neun-und-dreissig-zeiligen schluss.

Ich verbinde die inhaltsangabe mit der quellenforschung und berücksichtige bei der letzteren vor allem RR¹⁾, das gewöhnliche vorbild dieser allegorischen liebesdichtungen, und Chaucer²⁾, der diese gattung im englischen einbürgerte. Nur wo RR und Ch keine parallele bieten, forsche ich nach anderen vorbildern.

Einleitung: Flora bedeckt mit dem mantel die nacktheit der erde, die der kalte winter verursacht hatte (1—6): ähnlich RR Et oblie la poverté Oū ele a tot l'yver esté 58f.; auch Ch D. of D. 402—412, L. of G. W. 125—129, 171—174.

Der dichter liegt "beside a well in a fforeste" (19), wo er sich nach der jagd ausruht: où je trouvé Une fontaine sous un pin RR 1435; auch Ch D. of D. 445—448, P. of F. 211?

Er träumt im Mai (8): RR 47, Ch D. of D. 291—293, P. of F. 95, 130 (doch H. of F. 62 im Dezember), L. of G. W. 108, 209 f.

Er stellt betrachtungen an über die natur und die ursache seines traumes, Some good spirite that eve . . . bare me 30 f.: ähnlich RR 1—20; auch Ch H. of F. (Or if that spirits have the myght To make folk to dreme a-nyght) 42 f.

Er befindet sich auf einer schönen insel (71): dies steht nicht im RR, noch in Ch; offenbar ist die insel der Venus gemeint: Claudianus De Nuptiis Honorii et Mariae schildert den mit einer goldenen mauer umgebenen paradiesgarten der Venus-insel Cyprus 49 f.; auch in Vergils Aeneis wird eine

¹⁾ Le Roman de la Rose par Guillaume de Lorris et Jean de Meung, ed. par Francisque-Michel, Paris 1864.

²⁾ Chaucer, Globe ed., London 1899.

solche insel erwähnt, wo Venus den Aeneis verlässt (*Ipsa Paphum sublimis abit sedesque revisit laeta suas* 416)¹⁾.

Nach Skeat (in einem privatbrief) ist diese schöne insel "the Isle of Avilion of Arthur Romance"; aber die beschreibungen dieser insel sind sehr dürftig, besonders vor dem 15. jahrh.; auch ist bei Avalon wohl an magie, aber nicht an liebe zu denken.

Der garten ist von hohen mauern umgeben (72 f.): ebenso RR *Tot clos d'un haut mur bataillié* 131; ähnlich P. of F. 122.

Die mauer hat reichgeschmückte türme (81 f.): ebenso RR *Les tornelles sunt lés à lés, Qui richement sunt bataillies* 4428: auch Ch H. of F. III, 95—100.

Mauer und thore sind aus glas (72): nicht im RR; aber Ch H. of F. "the temple y-mad of glas I, 120, und "walles of berile That shoon ful lighter than a glas III, 199.

Jedes thor hat "of fine gold A thousand fannes" (77): nicht im RR; aber in Ch H. of F. haben die thore "florissynges . . compasses . . kervynges . . corbets, ful of ymageries al of gold" III, 216.

Der garten ist schön wie das paradies (128): ähnlich RR *ne féist en nul Paradis si bon estre* 645 f.: auch Ch P. of F. 182 f.

Es befinden sich da blumen und bäume jeder art (129 f.): ähnlich RR 1334—1382, 1409—1419; auch Ch P. of F. 172—182, 186.

Viele vögel singen (78 f.): ähnlich RR 478—496, 647—681; auch Ch D. of D. 295—320, P. of F. 190—192, L. of G. W. 130—145.

Mädchen tanzen auf der wiese (91 f.): ähnlich RR *Et gens mignotement baler Et faire mainte bele tresche* 749 f.; auch Ch P. of F. 218—234, L. of G. W. A 200 f.

¹⁾ Neilson, *The Origins and Sources of the Court of Love, Studies and Notes in Philology and Literature*. Ginn & Co. Boston 1899, 12 u. 15.

Eine der frauen, weise und gut, hat eine gebietende haltung (107 f.): ähnlich RR Curtesye "El ne fu ne nice n'umbrage. Més sages auques . . . digne d'estre empereris ou roïne" 1235—1252, mit einem zug von Largesse, die "L'amor des povres et des riches" (1153) hat. I. of L. "She governed her that in grace She stod alwaye with pore and riche 119; auch Ch L. of G. W. B 163?

Diese dame ist älter als die anderen (97 f.). Dieser zug findet sich nicht im RR, noch in Ch, aber in der geschichte, die unserm gedichte zu grunde liegt (Königin Isabeau von Frankreich?).

Sie fragt den dichter: Tell me how ye come hether now? (178 f.): ähnlich fragt Curtesie RR: Biaus amis, que faites-vous là? 788; auch Ch H. of F. fragt der "frend" Artow come hider to han fame? III, 782. L. of G. W. fragt der Liebesgott selbst, What dostow here? B 315.

Bald wird ihm mitgeteilt, er müsse die insel verlassen, denn es sei das gesetz des landes "That no mane here amonge us dwell" (246 f.): nicht im RR, noch in Ch (im RR giebt der Liebesgott viele gesetze, aber ganz anderer art 2309 f.); wahrscheinlich vom dichter erfunden.

Als er da in bangigkeit steht und nicht weiss, was er thun soll, entsteht plötzlich eine grosse aufregung: die königin der insel ist zurückgekehrt und, grosse freude! mit ihr seine dame und ein fremder ritter (304 f.): ähnlich RR "Les plus beles gens . . . Si sunt li compaignon Deduit Qu'il maine avec li et conduit" 622. "Li diex d'Amors" führte Biantés" 996 f. Près de Bianté se tint Richese 1021 f. Richese tint parmi la main Un valet de grant bianté plain 1116 f.; auch Ch L. of G. W. B 282 f.

Die königin ist auf der gefährlichen reise gewesen, da sie alle sieben jahre zum "herenys acmityge" (336), d. h. um die drei äpfel, zu erden die erde gegen yfene hat.

¹⁾ vgl. Foster. The Symposium of the Apple in Classical Antiquity, Harvard Studies I. 1897 22.

freude verleihen (329 f.): nicht im RR noch in Ch, aber in Ovid Met X als Hippomenes um hilfe bittet, um Atalanta zu gewinnen, antwortet nämlich Venus: "Est ager . . . Telluris Cypriae pars optima, . . . medio nitet arbor in arvo, . . . Hinc tria forte mea veniens decerpta ferebam Aurea poma manu" 644—650.

Auch in De Borron Holy Grail, Englisht by Lonelich EETS. XX 1 s. 431 ist ein baum, der drei wunderbare blumen trägt: "The ton flowr is bownte, ful Sekerly; The secund prowess: the thrydde is Cortesy; And Manye other vertwes ben The Abowte".

Dass der besuch alle sieben jahre gemacht wurde (329), ist nicht auffallend. Sieben ist eine beliebte zahl in der litteratur. Suchier¹⁾ bemerkt: "Die sieben-zahl, worauf die mondveränderungen sowohl, wie die wandelsterne (Sonne, Mond, Merkur, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn) führten, war bei den Semiten, Persern u. a. heilig. Die Griechen nahmen sie von den Phönikiern an".

Ch P. of F. "Chapitres it hadde sevene" 32, K. T. Thise seven yeer hath seten Palamon" 1452 u. dergleichen oft.

Dabei ist sie von diesem fremden ritter in rauher weise angegriffen worden. Aber des dichters dame hat sie gerettet und alle in ihrem schiff von dem weitentfernten felsen zur insel zurück gebracht (430): nicht im RR noch in Ch; aber Ovid quo dum Proserpina luco Ludit, et aut violas aut candida lilia carpit . . . Paene simul visa est dilectaque raptaque Diti: Usque adeo est properatus amor, Metam. v, 396.

In Li Fabel dou Dieu D'Amours²⁾ wird die dame von einem drachen geraubt und durch den Liebesgott gerettet s. 21 f.

¹⁾ Suchiers Ovid B. 3 Metam. 3 v. 326 anm.

²⁾ Li Fabel dou Dieu D'Amours ed. par Jubinal, Paris 1834.

²⁾ Langlois, Origines et Sources du Roman de la Rose, Paris 1891 s. 41 f.

Die "aged lady" tadelt den ritter, worauf er sogleich ohnmächtig wird (490 f.); ohnmacht in dieser poesie beliebt.

Nur mit der grössten mühe kann er zum leben gebracht werden. Dann ruft er den tod an: *Where arte thou deathe?* (607 f.): nicht im RR; aber Ch D. of D. klagt John von Gaunt: *Allas, Deeth, what ayleth thee That thou noldest have taken me* 481; auch K. T. 2773 f.

In diesem augenblick erscheint am meere der liebesgott (696 f.): ähnlich RR 870 u. ö.; auch Ch P. of F. "*Cupid our lord*" 212, H. of F. II 109 f., L. of G. W. B 213 u. ö., K. T. 1785 f.

Er ist von 10000 schiffen begleitet (696): nicht im RR, noch in Ch, sondern vom dichter erfunden.

Singende vögel umflattern die segel (714 f.): ebenso RR: Der Liebesgott "*iert tout covers d'oisiaus* 303 f. Auch Ch L. of G. W.: In der wiese um den liebesgott singen die vögel B 130—147.

Ernst schreitet er herein, trotz der geschlossenen thore, schüttelt den bogen und "*withe an arrow ground sharpe and new the quene a woounde he gave that pearced vnto the harte* 791: ähnlich RR "*Il a tantost pris une floiche; . . . Et trait à moi par tel devise Que parmi l'oel m'a ou cuer mise*" 1702; auch Ch L. of G. W. hatte er "*Two fryr dartes*" (B 235) in der hand und "*sternely on me he gan byholde*" (B 239), aber er schoss nicht. P. of F.: "*Cupid our lord*" schärft seine pfeile "*And at his fet his bowe al redy lay*" 213.

Der liebesgott behauptet seine autorität "*And sayd right sone he wolde be know*" 782; ähnlich RR: "*Vassal, pris ies, noient n'i a Du contredire ne du défendre, Ne fai pas dangier de toi rendre*" 1896 f.; auch Ch K. T. 1796 f.

Alle unterwerfen sich ihm. Des dichters dame sagt: "*As ye woll all thinges shalbe wrought*" (846), die königin verspricht, immer zu sein "*stedfaste and in his service to the deathe use every thought wall she had breathe*" (928), auch der ritter und der dichter (1065 f.): ähnlich RR "*Sire, volentiers me rendrai, Jà vers vous ne me desfendrai*"

1910f.; auch Ch K. T. sagt Theseus: "In my tyme a servant [des liebesgottes] was I oon" 1814.

Die königin reicht dem liebesgott eine "bill" dar (920 f.): nicht im RR; aber Ch Complaynte vnto Pite: "A complaynte hadde I writen in myn hond, For to have put to Pite as a bille" 44, auch in Merchant's T. giebt Damyan der May "his bille In which that he y-writen hadde his wille" 1938.

"At wiche bill the lord cane smyle" (931): ähnlich RR "Li diex sorrlist de la merveille" 12915; nicht in Ch.¹⁾

Der liebesgott lässt am nächsten morgen eine grosse versammlung berufen (950f.): ähnlich RR "Conseilla soi la baronie" 11447 f.; auch Ch K. T. lässt Theseus eine ähnliche versammlung zusammen kommen: "Thepeple preesseth thiderward ful soone . . . to herkne his heste and his sentence" 2532.

Der dichter vertreibt sich die nacht mit einer "romaunse": "And I to me a romaunse toke" (977): nicht im RR; aber Ch D. of D.: Ich "bad oon reche me a book A romaunce, and he hit me took To rede, and dryve the nyght away" 49.

Der liebesgott erscheint den nächsten tag gekleidet "all in flowers Of diverse coloures many a payer" (989): ähnlich RR "Il n'avoit pas robe de soie, Ains avoit robe de floretes" 883; auch Ch L. of G. W.: "y-clothed was this mighty god of Love, In silke enbrouded, ful of grene greves, In-with a fret of rede rose leves" B 228.

Er ist "well to fadome as his hight (991). Hier hat der dichter einen zug von der beschreibung des Myrthe im RR genommen: "Dédruit fu biaux et lons et drois" 805; nicht in Ch.

(Interessant ist es zu bemerken, wie der kleine Cupid, der sohn der Venus, im laufe der litteratur gewachsen ist, bis er hier als eine sechs fuss hohe gestalt vor uns steht.)

¹⁾ In Ch Troilus and Criseyde "lough" Troilus im himmel B. V, 1821.

Bei der versammlung hält "A counseler, servaunt of love" (1002) eine lange rede, in der er zum frieden mahnt: ähnlich RR "Divers diverses choses distrent; Mès puis divers descors s'acordent" (11450 f.) und es gab lange reden genug: auch Ch K. T.: "An heraud . . . shewed the myghty dukes wille" (2536 f.) nach welchem kein blutvergiessen stattfinden sollte.

Der liebesgott "Gave his statutes in papers . . . And forthe to shipe the same nyght He went" (1100): ähnlich RR "A mes comandemens ensivre, Qu'il troveront escrit ou livre" 10822; auch Ch P. of F. sagt Nature: "By my statut and through my governaunce" 387.

Des dichters dame macht sich auch auf und reist ab trotz der königin anerbietungen und bitten.

Der dichter stürzt sich verzweifelt in das wasser um dem boot zu folgen und wird halbtot von den schiffen gerettet. Als er im begriff ist zu sterben, sagt er: "Ther I made my testament (1167), And to the mast my wo all toulde" (1170): ähnlich RR "Ains que ge muire, . . me fais confès, Et voil faire mon testament" 4829; nicht in Ch.

Der dichter wird zum leben gebracht durch einen von den magischen äpfeln, den seine dame ihm gnädigst geschenkt hatte (1195 f.).

Als seine dame in ihrer eigenen heimat landet, erwacht der dichter und findet sein "chaumbre full of smoke" (1302) und den ganzen leib "weate of teares" (1304): nicht im RR noch Ch, sondern vom dichter erfunden.

Hier schliesst der erste traum. Der dichter steht auf, schwach und betrübt wie er ist, und kriecht die treppen hinauf zu einem anderen zimmer, dessen wände bemalt sind "Full of storyes old and diverse" (1325) "of horsemen, hawkes and houndes And hurte deare full of woundes" (2171 f.).

Das bemalen der wände mit klassischen märchen kommt oft genug vor: RR 134 f.; Ch D. of D. 332, P. of F. 284, L.

of G. W. 1025, K. T. 1918f., aber nur in K. T. im Diana-tempel "Depeynted been the walles vp and doun of huntyng" 2055.

Indem der dichter an seinen traum denkt, schläft er wieder ein. Diese ganze zwischenscene ist offenbar nur ein dichterisches mittel, um noch einmal die insel zu besuchen.

Hier hat eine grosse versammlung soeben beschlossen, dass der ritter könig und gemahl ihrer königin werden, und aus seinem vaterland führen sollte "suche an ooste That weddid might be lest and most" 1366; Dies steht nicht im RR noch Ch, sondern stammt aus der geschichte, wie wir später sehen werden, bloss ist der letzte vers eine zuthat des dichters.

Er reist in derselben nacht in einem zauberschiff ab, das "nedethe nether mast ne rother" (1381); nicht im RR; aber Ch Le Dit dou Lion¹⁾ (eine übersetzung (?) des gedichts von Machaut) verloren; auch in Walter Map La Queste del Saint Graal²⁾: "Une nef sans voile et sans auiron" chap. xi, 219 u. ö.; und im Lai de Gugemar von der Marie de France³⁾ führt ein solches schiff die liebenden zusammen 151 u. ö.: ähnlich Partonopeus von Blois⁴⁾ 1, 700 f. (auch in der Odyssee⁵⁾ B. 8).

Er kommt glücklich nach hause, ruft "all the stattes of the land" (1397) (:ähnlich RR 11447 f.; auch Ch K. T. 2530 f., P. of F. 386f.) zusammen, sagt zu ihrer grossen freude, er wolle sich mit der princessin vermählen, "for faste desyred they an heyer" (1448), und bittet, dass sie binnen zehn tagen ein gefolge bereit haben möchten von "Sixti thousannd

¹⁾ Machaut, ed. Tarbé, Paris 1849, s. xi auszüge s. 40f.

²⁾ La Queste del Saint Graal von Walter Map, ed. by Furnivall, Printed for the Roxburghe Club 1864.

³⁾ Die Lais der Marie de France hrsg. von Warnke, Halle 1885. Bibliotheca Normannica hrsg. von Suchier III.

⁴⁾ Partonopeus von Blois, Chapelet, Paris 1834

⁵⁾ Dunlop, History of Fiction ch. v, 407 und anm.

at the leaste" (1466): nicht im RR, noch Ch, sondern ist geschichtlichen ursprungs, gefärbt durch des dichters phantasie.

Da diese behaupten, das sei nicht möglich, es würde wenigstens fünfzehn tage dauern ein solches gefolge zusammenzubringen, legt er sich krank zu bett, weil er sein versprechen, zur bestimmten zeit nach der insel zurück zu kehren, nicht halten kann (1486 f.): nicht im RR noch Ch, sondern vom dichter erfunden.

Jedoch wird er wieder wohl und gesund, sobald alles fertig ist, und sie fahren zur insel in dem zauberschiff. das je nach der zahl der passagiere wächst (1560 f.): nicht im RR noch Ch, sondern in De Borron Holy Grail EETS. xxviii, iii s. 113: Josephes schirte welches über das meer fuhr "wax moche largere hem vntylle . . That for An hundred and persones Fyfty Uppon that schirte Alle weren trewely".

Er kommt mit grossem pomp glücklich an, doch später als versprochen. Eine dame "All cladd in blacke with chere peteus" (1599) begegnet ihm und klagt: "Allas the tyme that ye were bore! for all this land by you is lore (1612 f.): nicht im RR; aber Ch H. of F. klagt Dido über ihren falschen liebhaber: O, welaway that I was born! For through you is my name lorn i, 346 f.

Sie sagt ihm: "Ye shall se ladyes stand clade in blacke with visage whight" (1703), die den verlust ihrer zukünftigen gatten beklagen: nicht im RR; aber ähnliches Ch K. T. Als Theseus siegreich nach Athen zurückkehrt, begegnen ihm nämlich die frauen von Theben, die die schmach ihrer getöteten männer beklagen: "A compaignye of ladyes, tweye and tweye Ech after oother, clad in clothes blake But swich a cry and swich a wo they make 900 f.

Der ritter tröstet die frauen in derselben zärtlichen art wie Theseus. Der ritter "tho in armes twayne this lady toke" I. of L. 1714.

Theseus "in his armes he hem alle uphente And hem conforteth in ful good entente K. T. 958; nicht im RR.

Der ritter erfährt, dass die königin und zwei drittel der frauen vor kränkung und kummer gestorben sind (1645 bis 1650): nicht im RR; aber Ch H. of F. stirbt die verlassene Dido "roof hir-selve to the herte And deyde through the wounde smerte I, 374.

Es scheint, sie fürchteten vor allem "the tales and songs that by them make culd evell tungen" (1660).

Hat der dichter vielleicht den "Wykked Tonge" im sinn, der so oft im RR eine rolle spielt? "Male-Bouche le gengléor" 2847 u. ö.; auch Ch H. of F. bläst Aeolus schlechten ruf aus "his blakke trompe of bras y-cleped Sclaunder" III, 535 f.

Der ritter stösst sich darauf das messer ins herz und stirbt. Die klage seines gefolges ist heftig. Sie erheben "such a crye . . . thorowe the companye That to the heven hard was the sowne" (1727 f.): nicht im RR; aber Ch K. T. wird der tote Arcite getragen "to the halle That roreth of the crying and the soun" 2881.

Sie führen alle toten auf dem schiff zu einer befestigten stadt, die von alters her als königlicher begräbnisplatz benutzt worden war: nicht im RR noch Ch (Canterbury oder Westminster?).

Als sie der toten "quenes visage bare" machten, "longe of wepinge they not ceased" (1914): nicht im RR; aber Ch K. T. legte Theseus Arcite "bare the visage, on the beere Therwith he weep that pitee was to heere 2878.

Während der totenfeier kommt ein glänzender vogel in die kirche geflogen, setzt sich auf der königin totenbahre und singt leise drei lieder. Ein alter mann erschreckt ihn unabsichtlich, darauf fliegt er plötzlich hinauf gegen ein bemaltes fenster (:nicht im RR; aber Ch D. of D. 326 f.), sodass er tot zurückfällt. Bald versammeln sich eine menge vögel, von denen einer durch ein kraut den toten wieder zum leben bringt. Die äbtissin sieht das wunder, versucht es auch an den toten menschen, und nach kurzer zeit stehen

alle gesund auf (1823—1961): nicht im RR, noch in Ch; aber in Hyginus fab. de Polyido 136 wird eine schlange durch berührung mit einem kraut wieder lebendig gemacht, dann ebenso Glaucus¹⁾; auch in Marie de France²⁾ Lai d'Eliduc wird ein wiesel durch ein blümchen wieder lebendig gemacht und nachher das mädchen Guilliadun (1032—1066): ähnlich in einer menge von volksmärchen (vgl. Warnke *civ f.*).

Sie fahren zurück zur "Ile of Pleasaunce", des dichters dame wird aufgesucht, und alle werden am ende getraut (1981—2060).

Der hochzeitsschmaus wurde in zelten gefeiert (2061): nicht im RR, noch in Ch; aber Froissart³⁾, Paradys D'Amours: Là est tendus li pavillons De mon seignour 1016; auch La Cour de May: Là estoit richement tendue Une tente sur l'erbe drue 644 u. ö.

Der zweite traum schliesst mit der music beim hochzeitschmaus, welche den dichter erweckt (2168).

Aus diesem vergleich des I. of L. mit RR und Ch sehen wir, dass der erste traum viel abhängigkeit von dem RR und ausserdem von dessen hauptquelle Ovid⁴⁾ zeigt.

Alle konventionellen züge des liebeshofes sind vertreten; zugleich aber auch märchenzüge, nämlich 1. äpfel, 2. gefangen-nahme der königin auf einer felseninsel. Diese märchenzüge mögen indirect auch aus antiken autoren stammen, aus Homer und Ovid.

Beim zweiten traum ist nicht mehr RR die hauptquelle und Ch nebenquelle, sondern umgekehrt: Chaucers einfluss steht hier obenan.

¹⁾ Hygini Fabulae, ed. M. Schmidt, Jenae 1872.

²⁾ Warnke, Die Lais der Marie de France Bibl. Norm. hrsg. von Suchier, Halle 1885 III, 186 f. und *civ f.*

³⁾ Tyrwhitt Chaucer reprint London 1868 § XXVI note 24, u. No. XI.

⁴⁾ Froissart Oeuvres publiées par Scheler, Bruxelles 1870. Neilson, Origins and Sources of the Court of Love, 78 f.

⁵⁾ Langlois, Origines et Sources du Roman de la Rose, Paris 1891.

Beziehungen zu wirklichen vorgängen.

Was die vom gedicht dargestellten wirklichen vorgänge betrifft, sind drei verschiedene auslegungen bisher vorhanden:

1. von Speght, ausgabe 1598, 356 (dessen auffassung Bond sich anschliesst),
2. von Herzberg, Lemckes Jahrb. VIII, 133 f.,
3. von Brandl, Eng. Stud. XII, 175 f.

Speghts "argument" lautet: "This dream devised by Chaucer, seemeth to be a couert report of the mariage of John of Gaunt the kings sonne with Blanche the daughter of Henry Duke of Lancaster, who after long love, during the time where of the Poet faineth them to be dead, were in the end by consent of friends happily married, figured by a bird bringing in her bill an hearbe, which restored them to life againe. Here also is shewed Chaucers match with a certaine Gentlewoman, who although she was a stranger, was notwithstanding so well liked and loued of the Lady Blanch, and her Lord, as Chaucer himselfe also was, that gladly they concluded a marriage between them."

Diese deutung ist unmöglich, denn danach müsste die dichtung ein werk von Chaucer selbst sein. Das erweist sich durch die reime als unmöglich. Ferner stimmen zu den beiden hier erwarteten matches der geschichte keine detailzüge im gedicht. Daher sagt Tyrwhitt 1775—'8 neuhrsg. bei Routledge 1868, s. 446: "The supposed plan of this poem, prefixed to it by Mr. Speght, is a mere fancy."

Herzberg glaubte, dass das gedicht eher zur vermählungsfeier des Prinzen John von Gaunt im jahre 1396 mit Katharina, der wittwe Hugos von Swynford, schwester von Chaucers gattin Philippa, verfasst sei. Er modifizierte also die deutung Speghts. Doch verkennt er selbst "keinen augenblick das schwankende des grundes und des materials". In der that hat er beide bedenken, die gegen Speght sprechen, nicht überwunden.

Auf selbständiger grundlage ist von Brandl eine *erklärung* gewagt worden. Brandl geht aus von detailzügen

im gedicht, die zu dem stimmen, was Walsingham Hist. Angl. II, 331 f., Elmham Vita Henrici Quinti Cap 78, 89, 91, 92 und Pauli v, 158 f. über Heinrichs V. vermählung mit Katharina von Frankreich 1420 berichten. Für könig Heinrich war diese heirat die krönung seiner franz. politik und feldzüge; daher könnte von ihr mit recht gesagt werden: "That he desyred, more then riches, For her great name that flowered so" (1433).

Beim zustandekommen des heiratsvertrages (Troyes, 21. märz bis 9. april 1420) wurde ausgemacht, dass Heinrich, als gemahl Katharinas, zugleich der erbe des französischen königs sein solle: darauf beziehen sich vv. 1353—1372.

Ein ganzes parlament versammelte sich in Troyes, welches drei könige und fünf herzöge zählte: darauf gehen vv. 1969—1990. Das fest der hochzeit begann 'After aprell withein maye' (1992), und fand statt im königlichen lager nicht weit von Troyes: vgl. vv. 2061—2068.

Vorher hatten Heinrich V. und Katharina eine be-
gegnung bei Pontoise 29. Mai 1419, wobei wochenlang diplomatisirt wurde und auch die liebe wirklich mitspielte: vgl. vv. 696—1100.

Danach würde der erste traum (7—1301) im mai 1419 zu Pontoise spielen, der zweite (1346—2167) im mai 1420 zu Troyes. Kurz, das gedicht müsste von einem dem hofe irgendwo nebenstehenden, wenn auch provenziellen dichter verfasst worden sein.

Eine anerkennung und zugleich eine ergänzung dieser deutung hat Kittredge ausgesprochen in Eng. Stud. XIII, 24 f. Er bemerkte, dass Brandl zwei der dramatis personae, die "*ancient lady*", die sich als regentin der "*Yle of Pleasaunce*" in der abwesenheit der königin darstellte, und "*my lady*" des träumers verwechselt habe. Ich glaube, mit der "*ancient lady*" kann wohl die königin Isabeau von Frankreich, Katharinas mutter, gemeint sein: vgl. besonders v. 95f.; auch "And else ye mote prisoner be Unto these ladyes here and me That hav the governaunce of this yle" (185).

Bei dieser annahme befindet man sich sogar in übereinstimmung mit den chronisten und geschichtsschreibern der zeit, so dass diese gestalt hiemit ein starkes bindeglied in der historischen wahrscheinlichkeit wird.

“*My lady*”, vor welcher der dichter “sich am meisten beugt”, bleibt uns unbekannt. Dass sie jedoch in der wirklichkeit keine so hohe stelle am hofe hatte wie im gedicht, dürfen wir wohl aus den vv. 453—458 schliessen, denn sonst hätte er sich kaum so sehr gefreut “*To se my ladye in suche a place So receyved as she was*” (458).



The Ile of Ladies.*)

When flora, the quene of plesaunce,
Had hol acheued th'obessiaunce
Of this ffreshe and new season
Thorowte every Region,
5 And withe her mantell hol couert
that winter mad had discouert,
Of auenture, without light,
In may, I lay vppon a nyght
Allone, and on my Lady thowght,
10 and how the Lord *that* her wrought,
Couthe well entayle in Imagerye
and shewed had great masterye,
when he in so litle Space
made suche a body and a face,
15 So great beawty with suche features
more then in other creatures.
And in my thowghtes as I laye
in a Lodge, out of the waye,

*) "The Temple of Glasse" L, "The death of Blaunche the Dutchesse of Lancaster" H, "Chaucers dreame" Speght 1598 (vgl. Einleitung).

¹ whole u. ö. HS || atcheiued HS || tho'beisaunce HS — ² t.] the HS — ⁴ Thorowout S — ⁵ wth u. ö. H || mantyll H, mantle S — ⁷ adventuer H — ⁸ vpon u. ö. S — ⁹ alone u. ö. HS — ¹⁰ y^t u. ö. L — ¹¹ coulde u. ö. H || wel u. ö. S — ¹² maistry S — ¹³ little u. ö. HS — ¹⁴ sutch u. ö. H — ¹⁵ swiche S — ¹⁶ than u. ö. S

beside a well in a fforeste,
 20 wher after huntinge I toke rest,
 nature and kynd so in me wrought,
 that halfe on slepe thay me browght,
 and gan to dreame, to my thinkinge,
 withe minde of knowledge lekewakinge;
 25 for what I dreamed, as me thought,
 I sawe it and I slepte nought;
 wherfore is yet my ffull beleve
 that some good spirite that eve
 by maner of some cureux port
 30 bare me, where I saw payne *and* sport.
But wether it were I woke or slept,
 > well wot I, oft I laught and wepte;
 wherfor I woll in remembraunce
 put hole the paine and the pleassaunce,
 35 wiche was to me axes and heale.
Wold god, ye wiste it every dele!
 Or at the least, ye might on night
 of suche another have a syght;
 althowghe it were to you a payne,
 40 yet on the morrowe ye wold be fayne,
 and wishe it mighte longe duer;
 then might you saye ye had good eure;
 ffor who that dreames and wenes he see,
 muche the better yet may hee
 45 wit what, and of home, and where,

19 besydes u. ö. H — 20 took u. ö. S — 21 sleepe u. ö. S —
 22 dreame u. ö. HS || thinckinge u. ö. H — 23 knowliche S || like
 HS || making S — 24 dreamyde u. ö. H — 25 naughte u. ö. H — 27 ful
 u. ö. S || beleve u. ö. S — 28 tha H — 29 m] meane HS || curious S,
 devyne H — 31 whether HS — 32 wott u. ö. H || o] of S || longhe
 HS — 33 wyll H, wyl u. ö. S — 34 the f. H || pleassaunce u. ö. HS
 — 35 wch u. ö. H || hele S — 36 would u. ö. HS || you u. ö. H ||
 deale u. ö. H — 37 att u. ö. H || t] y^e u. ö. H || o S — 38 of on
 H — 39 all- u. ö. HS || to you it were H — 40 morowe u. ö. HS —
 41 might LS || dure S, induer H — 42 ye HS || e] cure HS —
 43 wh] he HS — 44 mutch u. ö. H — 45 witte H || whome u. ö. HS

and eke the lesse it wol him deare.
 To thinke I se thus withe myne eyne,
 I wis, this may no dreame bene,
 but signe .or signiffiaunce
 50 of hasty thinge soundinge pleasaunce;
 for on this wise vppon a nyght,
 as ye have hard, witheout light,
 not all wakyng, ne full on slepe,
 abowte suche houre as louers wepe
 55 and cry after ther ladies grace,
 befell me this wonder case,
 wiche ye shall here and all ye wise,
 as holly as I cane devise
 in playne englishe, evell writton;
 60 for slepe, wrightter, well ye weten,
 excused is, thowghe he do mise
 more then on that waking is;
 wherefor, here, of *your* gentulnes
 I you requier my boysteousnes
 65 ye let passe, as thinge rude,
 and hereth what I woll conclude;
 And of thenditinge take the no hede,
 ne of the termes, so god you sped,
 but let all passe as nothings were,
 70 ffor thus befell, as ye shall here.

⁴⁶ lasse S || hym dere H, hindere S — ⁴⁷ see u. ö. HS || this
 HS || eyen H, eene S — ⁴⁸ I wisse u. ö. H || bynne u. ö. H, kene S
 — ⁴⁹ signiffiaunce H, signiffiaunce S — ⁵⁰ h. swete H || souning
 S, sownynge to H — ⁵¹ an H — ⁵² heard u. ö. S — ⁵³ howers H ||
 weepe u. ö. S — ⁵⁴ aske H || their u. immer HS — ⁵⁵ wonderous H
 || cace u. ö. HS — ⁵⁶ shal S || heare u. ö. S || the u. ö. HS — ⁵⁷ So
 wholly as S, So as wholye H || canne u. ö. H — ⁵⁸ euyll HS ||
 written u. ö. HS — ⁵⁹ sleepe S, slepye H || writter H, writer S ||
 witten HS — ⁶⁰ mysse H — ⁶¹ gentillnes u. ö. HS — ⁶² require
 u. ö. S || boistousnesse S, boysterousnes H — ⁶³ heareth S,
 herken H — ⁶⁴ thendightinge H || taketh S || the f. HS || heed
 u. ö. S — ⁶⁵ tearmes S || speed u. ö. S — ⁶⁶ Lett u. ö. H —
⁷⁰ heere H

Withein an ylle, methowght I was,
 where wall and yate was all of glasse,
 and so was closed rounde abowte
 that leveles non come in, ne out,
 75 vncothe and straunge to beholde,
 ffor every yate of fine golde
 A thousannd fannes, ay*) turninge,
 entuned had, and birdes singinge
 > Diuerse, and on eche fanne a payer
 80 withe open mouthe agayne th[e] ayer;
 and of a suite were all the towers,
 Sotilly carven after flowers
 of vncothe colours, duringe aye,
 that never been none sene in may,
 85 withe many a smale turret highe.
 but mane on lyve culd I non spye,
 ne creatures, save ladyes playe,
 wiche were suche of ther arraye
 that, as me thowght, of godlyhed
 90 they passen all and womanhed;
 ffor to beholde him daunce and singe,
 hit semid like none earthely thinge:
 Suche was ther vncoth countenance
 In every playe of right vsaunce.
 95 And of one age everychon

71 Ile u. ö. HS — 72 waulle u. ö. H || were H || of f. H —
 73 was f. H || closyd u. ö. H — 74 leaueles H || came u. ö. H || nor
 H — 75 uncouth u. ö. HS — 76 gate HS — 77 thousande u. ö.
 HS || fannes u. ö. HS — 78 briddes S — 79 payre u. ö. HS —
 80 mouthes H || against H || thayer LH, thaire S — 81 sute S ||
 toures S — 82 subtilly H, subtilly S || coruen HS — 83 coulours u. ö.
 H — 84 ben S || no. sutch H || seen u. ö. HS — 85 small u. ö. HS ||
 turrett H || hye u. ö. HS — 86 s. see H, sie S — 87 creature HS
 — 88 araye u. ö. H — 89 goodlihead S, goodlyhoode H — 90 passed
 H, passeden S || -head S, -hoode H u. ö. — 91 them u. ö. HS —
 92 it u. ö. HS || seemed u. ö. S || no H || erthly HS — 93 counti-
 nance S

*) y mit heller tinte.

thay semed all, save only one
 wiche had of yeres sufficaunce;
 ffor she might neyther singe ne daunce,
 but yet her countenaunce was as glad
 100 As she as few yeres had hadd
 as any lady *that* was there,
 and as litle it did her dere
 of lustines to laugh and tale,
 as she had full stuffed a male
 105 of disport and newe playes.
 Fayre had she been in her dayes,
 and mistres semed well to be
 of all that lusty companye.
 And so she might, I you ensure,
 110 for on the conigest creature
 she was, and so sayd everychone
 that ever her knēw, ther fayled none,
 for she was sobre and well avised,
 and from every fault disguysed,
 115 and nothings vsed but faythe *and* trothe.
 That she nas younge, hit was great routhē,
 for every where and in eche place
 she gouerned her, that in grace
 she stod alwaye withe pore *and* riche,
 120 that, in a word, was none her liche,
 ne halfe so able misteres to be
 to suche a lustye company.
 Byfell me so, when I avised

96 onely u. ö. S — 97 yeares u. ö. H || suffisaunce HS —
 99 countenance S || a.] so HS — 100 s. so fe. HS || had HS —
 101 eny u. immer H — 102 it f. H — 103 stuff H — 104 dysportes
 H, disports S — 105 fayer u. ö. H — 106 meis H, maistresse u. ö. S —
 107 ensuer u. ö. H — 108 one of HS || connyngest HS || creatuer
 u. ö. H — 109 sayd u. ö. H || euerye one H — 110 sober u. ö. HS ||
 advysed u. ö. H — 111 e.] eny H || fa. quyte H — 112 vsyd u. ö. HS
 || truth u. ö. HS — 113 ruth u. ö. HS — 114 poore HS || ritch u. ö.
 H — 115 i.] att H, at S || lytch H — 116 misteris H — 117 Befell HS

had the yle at me sufficed,
 125 and hol thastate every where,
 that in that lusty yle was there,
 wiche was more wonder to deuise
 then the Joieux paradise,
 I dare well say, for flower ne tree,
 130 ne thing wherein pleassaunce myght be,
 ther fayled none for every wighte.
 Had thay desired day and nyghte,
 richesse, hele, beawty, and ease,
 withe everye thinge that him might please,
 135 thynke and have, hit cost no more.
 In suche a countrie there before
 had I not been, ne hard tell
 that lyves creature might dwell.
 And when I had thus all abowght
 140 the yle advised, thorowghte,
 the state, and how they were arrayed,
 In my harte I wex well payed,
 And in my self I me assured
 that in my body I was well eured,
 145 Sithe I might haue suche a grace
 to se the ladyes and the place,
 wiche were so fayer, I you ensure,
 that to my dome, thowghe *that* nature
 wold euer strive and do hir payne,
 150 She shuld not con ne mowe attaigne
 the lest feature to amende.
 Thowgh she wold all hir coninge spende

124 a.] that HS || sufficed u. ö. S — 125 the'state u. ö. HS —
 126 joyous u. ö. H — 127 flour S, bower H — 128 pleasaunce u. ö. S —
 129 Ri(t)ches HS || heale u. ö. HS — 134 might them H — 135 cuntry
 u. ö. H — 137 bene u. ö. S || nor H — 139 aboute HS — 140 auised
 S || thorow out H, throughout S — 142 heart u. ö. S || woxe H ||
 apayed H — 144 vred S, cured H — 147 faire u. ö. S — 148 that³ f.
 H || natuer u. ö. H — 149 her u. ö. HS — 150 should u. ö. HS || canne
 u. ö. H || mowe f. H || attayne HS — 151 least u. ö. S — 152 connyng u. ö. HS

that to beawty might auaile,
hit were but payne and lost travayle,
¹⁵⁵ Suche parte in ther natiuite
was hem alarged of beawtie,
and eke they had a thinge notable,
vnto ther deathe ay durable,
and was, that ther beawte shuld dure,
¹⁶⁰ wiche was never seen in creature,
Save only there, as I trowe,
hit hathe not be wist ne know;
wherefore I praise *with* ther coninge,
that duringe bewte, riche thinge.
¹⁶⁵ Had thay been of ther lyves certaigne,
thay had been qwyt of every payne.
And when I wend thus all haue seen,
thestate, the riches, that might been,
that, me thowght, impossible were
¹⁷⁰ to se one thinge more then was there
that to beawtie or glad coninge
serue or avayle might, any thinge,
All sodenly, as I *there* stode,
this Lady, that couth so moche good,
¹⁷⁵ vnto me come withe smilinge chere
and sayd; '*Benedicite!* this yere
Saw I never man here but you.
Tell me how ye come hether nowe,
And *your* name, and were you dwell,
¹⁸⁰ and whom ye sek, eke mot ye tell,
and how ye come be to this place.
The soth well told may cause you grace,

¹⁵⁵ natyvitie HS — ¹⁵⁶ them u. ö. HS || a.] allotted H — ¹⁵⁹ that was H, that f. S. || beawtie u. ö. HS || duer u. ö. H — ¹⁶⁰ in eny H — ¹⁶² bynne H — ¹⁶⁴ Durynge beawtie that H — ¹⁶⁵ certeyne HS — ¹⁶⁶ hadd H || q.] ridd H — ¹⁶⁷ weende H || thus f. H — ¹⁶⁹ unpossible S — ¹⁷³ sodeynly u. ö. HS || there f. L || stode u. ö. HS — ¹⁷⁸ hither H, hider u. ö. S — ¹⁷⁹ where HS || ye u. ö. S — ¹⁸⁰ m. y.] eke me H — ¹⁸² sooth u. ö. H || c.] gett H

and else ye mote prisoner be
vnto these ladyes here and me,
¹⁸³ that hau the governaunce of this yle.⁷
And withe that word she gane to smyle,
and so dyd all the lusty rowte
of Ladies, that stode her abowte.
‘Madame,’ quod I, ‘this night paste,
¹⁹⁰ Lodged I was and slepte faste
In a forest, beside a well,
and nowe ame here, how shuld I tell!
wot I not by whos ordinaunce,
but only ffortunes purveaunce,
¹⁹⁵ wiche puttes many, as I gesse,
to travell, payne and busines,
and lettes nothings for ther trowthe,
but some sleethe eke, and that is rowth;
wherefore I dowt hir britelnes,
²⁰⁰ hir variaunce and vnstedfastnes,
So that I am as yet affrayed,
and of my beinge here amayed,
for wondre thinge, semethe me,
thus many freshe ladyes to see,
²⁰⁵ So fayer, so connyng and so yonge,
and no mane dwellethe hem amonge.
Wot I not how I hether come.
‘Madame,’ quod I, ‘this all *and* some,
what shuld I feyne a longe processe
²¹⁰ to you, that seme suche a princes?

¹⁸³ A.] or H || must u. ö. H — ¹⁸⁴ v.] to H || theis u. ö. H
— ¹⁸⁵ governance S — ¹⁸⁷ t.] that that H — ¹⁸⁹ quoth H, qd. u. ö.
S — ¹⁹¹ forrest H — ¹⁹³ ordinance u. ö. S — ¹⁹⁴ purueiance S,
gouvernaunce H — ¹⁹⁵ puts S — ¹⁹⁶ tranayle u. ö. HS — ¹⁹⁸ sleas
H — ¹⁹⁹ doubt u. ö. HS || brittilnes S, brutillnes H — ²⁰⁰ variance
S || vnsteadfastnes S — ²⁰¹ yett H || afraid S — ²⁰² amaid S,
amasyd H — ²⁰³ wonder HS || semith u. ö. H — ²⁰⁴ to f. S —
²⁰⁵ cunning u. ö. S || younge u. ö. H — ²⁰⁶ dwellynge HS —
²⁰⁷ hither dyd c. H — ²⁰⁸ t. is a. H — ²¹⁰ seeme u. ö. H ||
pryncesse u. ö. HS

What please you comaunde or saye,
 here I am, you to obeye
 to my power and all fulfill,
 and prisoner byde at *your* will,
 215 till you dewlye enformed be
 of everye thinge ye aske me.
 This lady ther, right well appayed,
 me by thande toke and sayd,
 'Welcome, prisoner aduenturus,
 220 right glad am I ye haue sayd thus.
 And for ye doute me to displease,
 I will assaye to do you ease.'
 And with that word, ye anon,
 she *and* the ladyes euerychone
 225 assembled, and to counsell went,
 and after that sone for me sent,
 and to me sayd, on this maner,
 word for word, as ye shall here.
 'To se you here vs thinketh *marvayle*,
 230 and how witheout boot or sayle
 by any souttyllete or wyle
 ye get have entre in this Ile.
 But not for that yet shall you see
 that we gentilwomen bee,
 235 lothe to displease any wight,
 not withstandinge *our* great right.
 And for ye shall well vnderstand
 the olde custome of this lande,
 wiche hathe continewd many yere.

²¹¹ y. to c. H || command u. ö. S — ²¹² you f. H — ²¹⁵ duelle
 I, duly S — ²¹⁷ apayed H, apaid S — ²¹⁸ toke by the hande H —
²¹⁹ aduenterous H — ²²³ y. aye H — ²²⁵ counsell H, counsaile u. ö.
 } — ²²⁹ thinckes H, thinke S || m'vayle L, mervayle H — ²³⁰ bote
 } — ²³¹ subtiltie HS — ²³² gott H || entrie H || i. into H —
 — ²³⁴ t. y. u. ö. H — ²³⁶ -standinge HS — ²³⁷ -stond u. ö. S —
²³⁸ this the H || lond u. ö. S — ²³⁹ continued S || m. a.
 . H

240 Ye shall well wyt *that* withe vs here
 ye may not byd, for causes twayne,
 Wheche we be purposed you to seyne.
 The on is this, *our* ordinaunce,
 whiche is of longe continuaunce,
 245 woll not, sothely we you tell,
 that no mane here amonge vs dwell;
 wherefore ye mot nedes retorne,
 In no weys may ye here soiorne.
 The *other* is eke that *our* quene
 250 owt of the reme, as ye may sene,
 Is, and may be to vs a charge,
 yf we let you go here at large,
 ffor wiche cause, the more we dowbte
 to do a faute, while she is owte,
 255 Or suffer that may be noysaunce
 again our olde acustemuaunce.⁷
 And when I had these causes tweine
 herd, O god! whiche a payne
 all sodenly abowte my harte
 260 ther come attones, and how smerte
 In crepinge soft, as who wold stele,
 Or me do robe of all myn hele,
 And mad me in my thought so frayd,
 that in corage I stode dismayed.
 265 And standinge thus, as was my grace,
 a lady come more then a pace,
 withe huge *prease* hir abowte,

240 wote H, wete S — 242 wch H, wich u. ö. S || purposde H
 — 244 contynewance H — 246 n.] eny H || here f. H — 247 retorne
 H, retourne u. ö. S — 248 w.] wise S || soiourne u. ö. S || you maye
 not longe h. s. H — 249 The trothe L — 250 the f. H || realme u. ö.
 HS — 251 chardge u. ö. H — 252 lardge u. ö. H — 254 fault u. ö.
 HS — 256 accustomaunce H, accustomance S — 258 w.] what HS
 — 259 mine u. ö. S || hert u. ö. H — 260 attons L, atones S ||
 smart u. ö. S — 261 creeping u. ö. S || steale u. ö. HS — 262 do me
 HS || robbe HS — 263 frayed H — 264 i. my c. H || dismaid S —
 267 pres L

and told how the quene *without*e
 was arrayved, and wold come in.
 270 *Wele* were thay that thether might wyn.
They hied so, they wold not byde
 the brideling of ther horse to ryde,
 by ten, by six, by two, by thre,
 ther was not one abode with me.
 275 *The* quene to mete, everychone
 they went, and bod withe me not one.
 And I, after a softe paas,
 Imageninge how to purchase
 grace of the quene ther tabyde
 280 till good fortune, some happy guyde
 me send might, that wold me bringe
 where I was borne to my woninge,
 for way ne sent knew I none,
 ne whetherward I nyst to gone,
 285 for all was see aboute the Ile.
No wonder thowghe me lest not smyle,
 Seinge the case vnquowth and straunge,
 and so like a perelus chaunge.
 Imageninge thus, walkinge allone,
 290 I saw the Ladyes everychone.
 So that I myght somewhat ofer,
 Sone after that, I drew me neare,
 and tho I was war of the quene,
 and how the ladyes on there knene
 295 withe Joyeuse wordes, gladly avised,
 hir welcomed so that hit sufficed,
 thoghe she princes hole had bee

269 aryved HS — 270 well HS || wy. twynne H, twin S —
 1 abyde HS — 272 of f. HS — 273 te. too H, five S || tw. too u. ö.
 [— 275 meet u. ö. S — 277 pace H, pase u. ö. S — 278 imagynyng
 , ö. HS || purchase S — 279 to bide S — 282 wonnyng HS —
 3 a. foote HS — 285 sea u. ö. HS — 286 t. m. was I H || list HS
 - 288 perillous HS — 291 offer HS — 292 nere HS — 294 kneene
 , ö. S — 296 wellcomyd H — 297 thoughe HS

of all that vironed is withe see.
 And thus avisinge *with* chere sadd,
³⁰⁰ all sodenlye I wex gladd,
 that greater yoye, as mot I thrive,
 I trow had never mon on lyve
 then had I tho, [ne] harte more light
 when of my lady I had syght,
³⁰⁵ wiche withe the quene come was there,
 and in one clothinge bothe they were.
 A knyght also, right welbesene,
 I sawe that come was *with* ye quene,
 of whom the ladyes of that Ile
³¹⁰ had huge wonder longe whyle,
 till at the last, right soberlye
 the quene her selfe, full coninglye,
 with softe wordes in goodlye wyse
 sayd to the ladyes, yonge and wyse;
³¹⁵ 'My susters, how ht hathe befall
 I trow ye know it, on *and* all;
 that of longe tyme here haue I been
 withein this yle, bydinge as quene,
 lyvinge at ease, that never wight
³²⁰ more *perfyte* Joye haue ne mighte,
 and to you been of gouernaunce
 Suche as ye fond in hol pleasaunce,
 In every thinge, as ye knowe,
 after *our* costome and *our* lowe,
³²⁵ wiche how they first found[e] were
 I trow ye wote all the manere;
 and how, who quene is of this Ile,

²⁹⁸ that f. S || invyroned H, environed S — ²⁹⁹ sad HS —
³⁰⁰ waxyd H, waxed S || glad HS — ³⁰¹ greater HS — ³⁰² man HS
 — ³⁰³ Then I tho ne hart more lighte HS — ³⁰⁴ h. a s. H —
³⁰⁷ r.] there HS — ³¹³ wyes u. ö. H — ³¹⁴ w.] nise S — ³¹⁵ sisters
 HS || befaull u. ö. H — ³²⁰ perfect u. ö. H — ³²¹ o.] in 'H —
³²² founde HS — ³²⁴ custome HS || lawe H — ³²⁵ found fyrst H —
³²⁶ tr.] know H — ³²⁷ how f. S

as I haue bene longe while,
yche seven yeres mot of vsage
³³⁰ visyt the hevenly armitage,
wiche on a roche so highe stondes
In strange se, out from all londes,
that to make the pillereuage
is caled a longe perileuse viage.
³³⁵ For yf the winde be not good frind,
the Jorney duers to the ende
of hem that hit vndertakes.
Of *twenty* thousande one not skapes.
Oppon whiche Roche growethe a tree,
³⁴⁰ that certayne yeres bares apples three.
Wiche thre apples who may haue,
bene from all displeasaunce saue,
That in the seuene yere may ffall,
this wote ye well, one and all.
³⁴⁵ ffor the first appull and ye hexst,
whyche growethe vnto you nexst,
hathe thre vertues notable,
and kepethe youthe ay durable,
bewtie and hele ever in one,
³⁵⁰ and is the beste in everychone.
The second appule, red and grene,
only withe lokes of your yene
you nurryshes in pleasaunce
better then partrices ne fesaunce,
³⁵⁵ and fedes every lyves wyght

³²⁰ ech HS || m. | not S — ³³⁰ heauenlie u. ö. HS — ³³¹ rock
u. ö. HS || standes H — ³³² straunge u. ö. H || seas H || out f. H ||
landes H — ³³³ pilgrimage HS — ³³⁴ cauled H, called u. ö. S ||
perilous HS — ³³⁵ ffrend u. ö. HS — ³³⁶ iourney u. ö. S || dures
H || thende L — ³³⁷ hym HS — ³³⁸ scapes HS — ³³⁹ growth H,
growth u. ö. S — ³⁴⁰ beares u. ö. HS — ³⁴² be H — ³⁴³ befaull H
— ³⁴⁴ apple u. ö. HS || hexst HS — ³⁴⁶ next HS — ³⁴⁸ kepith H
— ³⁴⁹ h. | loke S — ³⁵⁰ in | of H — ³⁵¹ redd H — ³⁵² lookes u. ö. S ||
eyne H — ³⁵³ norysheth H, nourishes S — ³⁵⁴ partrydge HS || n. | or
HS || phesauntes H — ³⁵⁵ fedith H, feeds S

pleasauntlye with the syght.
 The thirde appule of the thre,
 wiche growethe loueste in ye tree,
 who yt beres may not fayle
³⁶⁰ that to his pleasaunce may auaile.
 So *your* pleasure and beautie riche,
 your duringe youthe ever liche,
 your trothe, *your* coninge and *your* welle,
 hathe ay flowred, and *your* good hele
³⁶⁵ witheout sicknes or displesaunce,
 or thinge that to you was noysaunce,
 So that you haue as goddesses
 lived aboven all princesses.

Now is byfall as ye may see:

³⁷⁰ To gedre thus sayd appuls three,
 I haue not ffayled agayne the daye
 thetherward to take the weye,
 weninge to spede as I had oft;
 but when I come, I found aloft
³⁷⁵ my sister, wiche that here stondes,
 havinge those appulles in her handes,
 ausinge hem and nothinge sayde
 but loked as she wer well payed.
 And as I stode her to behold,
³⁸⁰ thenkinge howe my Joyes were cold,
 Sithe I those apples haue ne might,
 even withe that so come this knight,
 and in his armes of me vnware
 me toke, and to his shipe me bare,
³⁸⁵ and sayd thowgh he me never had sene,

³⁵⁸ i.] on HS — ³⁶¹ pleasuer u. ö. H — ³⁶³ will H, weale S
 — ³⁶⁴ flowered H — ³⁶⁸ aboue HS — ³⁶⁹ No.] Mow L — ³⁷⁰ gather
 HS || thus theis H, these S — ³⁷⁴ find S — ³⁷⁵ standes HS —
³⁷⁶ theis H || hir H — ³⁷⁷ h.] then H — ³⁷⁸ paid S, apayed H —
³⁸³ aware S — ³⁸⁴ shypp u. ö. H || me f. H — ³⁸⁵ hym I had
 neuer scene H, him I never h. s. S

yet had I longe his Lady bene;
 wherefore I shuld withe him wend,
 and he wolde to his lives ende
 my seruaunte be, and can to singe
 390 as *one that* had wone riche thinge.
 Tho were my spirites fro me gone
 So sodenlye, everychone,
 that in me appered but deathe;
 ffor I feld neyther liue ne brethe,
 395 ne good, ne harme, non I knewe,
 the sodeyne paine me was so new,
 that had not the hasty grace be
 of this lady, that fro the tree
 of her gentulnes so hiede
 400 me to comforte, I had dyed;
 and of her *three* applus, one
 in myn hand ther put annone,
 wiche browght agayne minde *and* brethe,
 and me recouered from the deathe;
 405 wherefore to her so am I holde,
 that for her all thinge do I wolde.
 ffor she was leche of all my smart,
 and from great paine socourte myn harte.
 And as god wotte, right as ye here,
 410 me to comforte with frindlye chere
 she did her power and her might,
 and trewlye eke so did this knight
 in that he couthe, and oft sayd
 that of my woo he was il payed,

389 servant u. ö. S || gan u. ö. HS — 390 one that f. L || w. a r.
 S — 391 my wy S — 392 appearyd H, appeared S — 394 felt HS
 lief H, life u. ö. S || breath u. ö. HS — 396 me f. H — 400 com-
 rt HS — 401 t.] there L — 402 putt u. ö. H || anone u. ö. HS —
 403 r.] relevyd H — 406 thinges HS — 407 leatche u. ö. H — 408 s.]
 yd rydde H, so quite S — 409 wote HS — 410 friendly u. ö. S ||
 reare u. ö. S — 411 p.] prowessse S, peynes H — 412 truely u. ö.
 S — 414 woe H, wo u. ö. S || paid S, apayed H

⁴¹⁵ and cursed the shipe hem hether browght,
 the mast, the master that hit wrought;
 and as eche thinge mot haue an ende,
 my suster here, our brother frinde,
 con, withe her wordes so womanlye,
⁴²⁰ this knyght entreat, and coningelye,
 | for myn honor and his also,
 and sayd that with her we shuld goo,
 bothe in her shippe, where she was browght,
 wiche was so wonderfullye wrought,
⁴²⁵ So clene, so riche, and so arrayed,
 that we were bothe content and payed.
 And me to comfort and to plesse,
 and myn hart to put at easse,
 she toke great payne in litle while,
⁴³⁰ and thus hathe browght vs to this yle,
 as ye maye se; wherefore echone,
 I praye you, thanke her, one *and* one
 as hertelye as ye cane devise,
 or Imagen in any wyse.⁷
⁴³⁵ At once ther tho men myght sene
 a world of Ladyes fall on knene
 before my lady, that ther abowte
 was lefte none stanndinge in ye route,
 bot all to th'erthe they went at once
⁴⁴⁰ to knele. They spared not for the stones,
 ne for estate, ne for ther blode.
 Well shewed they ther they cuthe moche good;

⁴¹⁵ cursyd H || s. that hym thither H, that them there S —
⁴¹⁶ the²¹ and HS || mason H — ⁴¹⁷ an his H — ⁴¹⁸ syster HS || o.
 your S || o. b. as truest H — ⁴¹⁹ c. came H — ⁴²⁰ intreate u. ö. H
 — ⁴²¹ honour u. ö. S — ⁴²² goe H, go S — ⁴²³ ship u. ö. S —
⁴²⁵ cleane u. ö. HS || so³ well H || araid S — ⁴²⁷ please HS — ⁴²⁸ ease
 u. ö. HS — ⁴³² thanck u. ö. H — ⁴³³ heartily u. ö. S — ⁴³⁴ Imagynne
 H, imagine S — ⁴³⁸ standinge HS — ⁴³⁹ to t. together HS || ones
 u. ö. HS — ⁴⁴⁰ kneele u. ö. S — ⁴⁴¹ bloude H, blood u. ö. S —
⁴⁴² shewid H || they¹ f. S || much S, their H

Ffor to my lady they made suche feaste,
 withe suche wordes, that the leste
 445 so ffrindlye and so faythefullye
 sayd was, and so coninglye,
 that wonder was, seinge ther youthe,
 to here the laungage they cothe,
 and holly how they governed were
 450 in thannkynge of my ladye there;
 and sayd by will and maundement
 they were at her comandement,
 wiche was to me as great a Joye,
 as wininge of the towne of troye
 455 was to the hardye grekes stronge,
 when thay yt wane with seage longe,
 to se my ladye in suche a place
 so receyved as she was.
 And when they taled had a while
 460 of this and that, and of the Ile,
 my lady and the ladyes there,
 all together as they were,
 the quene herselfe begane to playe,
 and to the aged lady saye;
 465 Now semethe you nat good it were,
 sithe we be alltogither here,
 to ordayne and avise the best
 to set this knyght and me at rest?
 for woman is a feble wyght
 470 to rere a ware agayne a knyght;
 and sythe he here is in this place,
 at my lyst, daunger or grace,

⁴⁴⁴ words S — ⁴⁴⁸ language HS || that t. H || couth HS
 — ⁴⁴⁹ wholly u. ö. H — ⁴⁸² comaundement H, commaundement S —
⁴⁵⁴ wyynyng HS — ⁴⁵⁵ greekes HS — ⁴⁸⁶ wanne H || seige H,
 siege S — ⁴⁵⁹ talid H, talked S — ⁴⁸² alltogithers H, altogither
 S — ⁴⁸³ beganne u. ö. H — ⁴⁸⁵ not HS — ⁴⁸⁷ av. devyse HS —
⁴⁸⁸ sett u. ö. H — ⁴⁷⁰ reyse H || warre HS || against HS — ⁴⁷² lyst
 f. H || danger S || or my g. H

it were to me great villa[n]ye
to do him any tirrannye.
⁴⁷⁵ But fayne I wolde now, will ye here,
in his owne cunterye that he were,
and I in peace, and he at ease,
this were a waye vs bothe to please.
If yt might be, I you beseche,
⁴⁸⁰ withe hem hereof ye fall in speche.
This lady tho began to smyle,
avisinge her a littull while,
and withe glad chere she sayd anon,
‘Madame, I will vnto him gone,
⁴⁸⁵ and withe him speke *and* of him fele
what he desyers, everye dele.’
And soberlye this ladye tho,
herselfe and other ladyes two
she toke withe her, and with sad chere
⁴⁹⁰ sayd to the knyght on this maner:
‘Syr, the princesse of this Ile,
whom for your pleasaunce many myle
ye sowght haue, as I vnderstand,
till at the last ye haue her found,
⁴⁹⁵ me sende hathe here, and Ladyes twayne,
to here all thinge that ye sayne,
and for what cause ye have her sowght
fayne wold she wyt, and hole *your* thought,
and whi you do her all this woo,
⁵⁰⁰ and for what cause ye be her foo,
and whi, of everye wight vnware,
by force ye to *your* shippe her bare,
that she so nyghe was agone,

⁴⁷³ vylanye HS — ⁴⁷⁴ tyrannye HS — ⁴⁷⁵ ye f. H — ⁴⁷⁶ cun-
trey H, country u. ö. S — ⁴⁷⁹ besetche H, beseech u. ö. S —
⁴⁸⁰ hym HS || spetche u. ö. H — ⁴⁸² while HS — ⁴⁸⁵ speake u. ö.
S || feele u. ö. H — ⁴⁸⁶ desires S — ⁴⁹¹ princes u. ö. S — ⁴⁹² m. a
m. H — ⁴⁹⁴ fond S — ⁴⁹⁶ thinges H — ⁴⁹⁸ wytte H, wote S —
⁴⁹⁹ woce H, wo u. ö. S — ⁵⁰⁰ ffoe H, fo u. ö. S

that minde ne speche had she none,
⁵⁰⁵ but as a paynefull creature,
 Dijnge, abode her adventure,
 that her to se enduer that payne,
 I dare well saye vnto you playne,
 right on your selfe ye did amise,
⁵¹⁰ seeinge how she a princes is.
 This knyght the whiche couth his good,
 ryght of his trothe meued his blood,
 that pale he wox as any ledd,
 and loked as he wold be dedd.
⁵¹⁵ Blud was ther none in nayther cheke,
 wordles he was and semed sike;
 and so yt preved well he was,
 for without meuinge any passe,
 all sodenlye, as thing dyinge,
⁵²⁰ he fell at once downe sowninge,
 that for his wo, this Lady frayed,
 vnto the quene her hied and sayd;
 'Comethe on, anone, as haue ye blisse,
 but ye be wyse, thinge is misse.
⁵²⁵ This knyght is ded, or wilbe sone,
 Lo! where he lyethe, yonde in sowne,
 without word or answeringe
 to that I sayd haue, any thinge.
 Wherefore I dowbte that ye blame
⁵³⁰ might be hinderinge to your name,
 whiche flowred hathe so many yere,
 so longe, that for nothinge here

⁵⁰⁴ speatch H, speech u. ö. S — ⁵⁰⁶ Dyenge u. ö. H || adventuer
 H — ⁵⁰⁷ indure u. ö. HS — ⁵⁰⁸ d.] here S — ⁵⁰⁹ amysse HS —
⁵¹² moved u. ö. H — ⁵¹³ leade HS — ⁵¹⁴ lokte H, lookt S || deade
 u. ö. HS — ⁵¹⁵ nother S || cheeke u. ö. — ⁵¹⁶ syck u. ö. HS —
⁵¹⁷ proved u. ö. HS — ⁵¹⁸ paas S — ⁵²⁰ swoundinge H — ⁵²¹ fraid
 S — ⁵²² come H — ⁵²⁴ amysse u. ö. HS — ⁵²⁵ soone u. ö. HS —
⁵²⁶ swoune H, swoone S — ⁵²⁷ annsweringe u. ö. H — ⁵²⁸ haue
 seid HS — ⁵³¹ flowryd H

I wold, in no wyse, he dyedd.
 Wherefore good were that ye hiedd
 535 his lyfe to saue, at the lest,
 and after that his woo be ceste,
 Commaunde him to voyd or dwell,
 ffor in no wyse dare I more *mell*
 of thinge, wherein such perill is,
 540 as lyke is now to fall of this.
 This quene right tho, full of great feare,
 withe all the ladyes present there,
 vnto the knyght come, where he leye,
 and mad a lady to him saye;
 545 'Lo, here the quene, awacke, for shame!
 What will ye do, is this good game?
 Whi lye you here, where is *your* minde?
 Now is well sene *your* wyt is blinde,
 to see so many ladyes here,
 550 and ye to make none other chere,
 but as ye sett them all at nowght.
 Aryse, for his love that you bowght.
 But what she sayed, a word not one
 he spake, ne answeere gave here none.
 555 The quene of very pytye tho,
 her worshipec and his life also
 to saue, ther she dyd her payne,
 and quocke for fere, and con to sayne
 Ffor woo, Allas! what shall I do!
 560 what shall I saye this mane vnto!
 If he dye here, lost is my name.
 How shall I pleye this *perilous* game!
 Yf any thinge be here amise,

533 dyed HS — 534 hyed HS — 536 ceaste u. ö. HS — 537 comaund
 u. ö. H || to f. HS — 538 medell L — 539 pill H — 545 awake u.
 ö. HS — 547 whe. | what HS — 548 witte H — 551 set S — 553 sayd
 H — 555 pyttie u. ö. H — 556 His H || worshipp H || 1. | like S —
 558 quoke HS || feare u. ö. HS || gan u. ö. HS — 559 alas u. ö. HS
 — 562 perrjllous H

yt shalbe sayd, hit rigor is;
⁵⁶⁵ wherby my name enpayer myght,
 and like to dye eke is this knyght.
 And withe that word, her hande she layed
 vppon his brest, and to him sayed,
 'Awacke, my knyght! Lo! yt am I
⁵⁷⁰ that to you speke, now tell me whi
 Ye fare thus, and this payne enduer,
 Seinge ye be in counterye suer,
 Amonge suche frindes that wold *your* hele,
your hartes ease eke and *your* welle.
⁵⁷⁵ And yf I wyst what you might ease,
 or knew the thinge that you might please,
 I you ensuer, it shulde not fayle
 that to youre hele you might avayle.
 Wherefore, withe all myne harte I praye
⁵⁸⁰ ye rysse, and lett vs tale and pleye.
 And see! how many ladyes here
 Be common, for to make you chere.'
 All was for nawght, for still as stone
 he laye, and worde spake he none.
⁵⁸⁵ Longe while was or he might brayd,
 and of all that the quene had sayd,
 he wyst no worde, but at the last,
 'Mercy,' twies he cried faste,
 that pyty was his voice to here,
⁵⁹⁰ or to beholde his paynefull chere,
 wiche was not fayned, well was to sene
 bothe by his visage and his eyne,

⁵⁶⁴ rigour HS — ⁵⁶⁵ Impayer H, impayre S — ⁵⁶⁷ laid S —
⁵⁶⁸ said S — ⁵⁶⁹ am| is H — ⁵⁷¹ faren H || payne f. H || endure
 u. ö. S — ⁵⁷² country S, harbour H || sure u. ö. S — ⁵⁷³ t. as
 H — ⁵⁷⁴ weale u. ö. HS — ⁵⁷⁶ know HS — ⁵⁷⁷ ensure u. ö. S
 — ⁵⁸⁰ rise u. ö. HS || let HS || talke S — ⁵⁸² comen HS || y.
 good S — ⁵⁸⁴ spoke S || he f. HS — ⁵⁸⁵ o. ere u. ö. H ||
 brayed H — ⁵⁸⁸ twise HS — ⁵⁹¹ feigned H || to f. H || sein S —
⁵⁹² eyen H

wiche on the quene at once he caste,
 and syghte as he wolde to braste,
 595 and after that he shrighthe soo
 that wonder was to se his woo;
 for sythe that paine was first named,
 was never more woofull paine entamed;
 for withe voice ded he gan to playne,
 600 And to him selfe these wordes sayne:
 'I, woofull wyght, full of malvre,
 am worse then ded, and yet I duer
 magre any payne or deathe.
 Agaynst my will I fele my brethe.
 605 Whi *nam* I ded, sythe I ne serue,
 and sythe my ladye will I sterue?
 Where arte thou, deathe? art thou agast?
 Well shall we mete yet at the laste.
 Thowghe thou the hide, it is for nawght,
 610 for where thou dwell thou shall be sought,
 magre thi subtill dowble face.
 Here will I dye, right in this place,
 to thi dishonor and myn ease.
 Thi manner is no wyght to please.
 615 What nedes the, sythe I the seche,
 so the to hide, my paine to eche?
 And well wyst thou I woll not lyve,
 who wolde me all this world here gefe,
 ffor I haue withe my cowardice
 620 Lost yoye, and helle, and my seruice,
 and made my soveraigne lady soo,
 that while she lyves, I trow, my foo

594 sighed HS || t. be H — 595 shrighthe LS || so HS —
 597 namyd H — 598 woofull u. ö. HS || e. attayned HS — 600 words
 S — 602 I f. HS || indure H — 603 maugre u. ö. HS — 604 feelee H,
 fell S — 605 ner L — 606 I me HS — 608 meet u. ö. S —
 610 Dwelst HS || shalt HS — 614 maner u. ö. H — 615 needs u. ö.
 S — 617 wottest H, wost S || no Life H — 618 gyfe H, give S —
 620 servis u. ö. HS — 621 souereigne HS

she wilbe euer to her ende.
 Thus haue I neyther Joye ne frend.
 635 Wote I not whither hast or slowthe
 Hathe caused this now, by my trothe;
 for at the hermitage full hye,
 where I her saw first withe myn eye,
 I hyed till I was alofte,
 640 and mad my pace smale and softe,
 till in myn armes I had her faste,
 and to my shipe bare at the laste.
 Whereof she was displeased soo
 that endles there semed her woo;
 645 and I thereof had so great feare
 that me repent that I came there.
 Wiche hast, I trowe, con her displease
 and be the cause of my deseace.
 And withe that word, he can to crye,
 650 'Now deathe! deathe!' twy or thrye,
 and motird wot I not what of slougthe;
 and even withe that, ye quene, of routhe,
 him in her armes tooke and sayd,
 'Now myn owne knyght, be not yll payed
 645 that I a lady to you sente
 to haue knowledge of *your* entent;
 ffor, in good faythe, I ment but well,
 and wold ye wyst yt everye dell,
 nor woll not do to you I wysse.'
 650 And withe that word she can him kysse,
 and prayed him ryse, and sayd she wold
 his welfare, by her trothe, and tolde
 him howe she was for his diseace

635 whether HS || sloth u. ö. S — 636 causyd H — 638 Wh.
 When S || iye S — 639 hyedd H — 642 b| her a. H || the f. H —
 643 displeasyd H — 645 fere S — 646 repentyd H — 648 b| is HS ||
 dysease u. ö. HS — 641 motteryd H, motred S || slouth u. ö. HS —
 643 toke u. ö. H — 644 Now f. H || euill S || apayd HS — 646 intent
 u. ö. H — 647 meant S — 648 dele S — 652 toulde H

right sorye, and fayne wold him please.
⁶⁵⁵ His lyfe to saue, thes wordes thoo
 she sayd to him, and many moo
 in comfortinge, for from the peyne
 she wold he were delyvered fayne.
 The knight tho vpcast his eyne,
⁶⁶⁰ and when he se it was the quene,
 that to him had those wordes sayde,
 ryght in his woo he can to brayd,
 and him vpdressed for to knele,
 the quene avisinge wonder well.
⁶⁶⁵ But as he *rose* he overthrewe,
 wherefore the quene, yet eft newe,
 him in her armes annon toke,
 and piteuslye con him looke.
 But for all that, nothinge she sayde,
⁶⁷⁰ ne spake not lyke she were well paid,
 ne no chere mad, more sadd ne lyght,
 but all in on to euery wyght.
 Ther was sene connynge withe estate
 In her, witheout noyse or debate.
⁶⁷⁵ For, save only a looke peteus
 of womanehed, vndispiteous,
 that she shewed in countenance,
 far semed her hart from obeysaunce.
 And not for that, she did her paine
⁶⁸⁰ him to recover from the paine,
 and his harte to put at large,
 for her entent was to his barge

⁶⁵⁵ words u. ö. S || tho HS — ⁶⁵⁶ moe HS — ⁶⁵⁹ een S —
⁶⁶⁰ sawe HS — ⁶⁶¹ theis H, these S — ⁶⁶³ vppdressyth H, vpdresses
 S — ⁶⁶¹ wonderous H || wele HS — ⁶⁶⁵ rosre L — ⁶⁶⁶ anew S
 — ⁶⁶⁸ pitiously H, pitously S || loke u. ö. H — ⁶⁷⁰ payd HS
 — ⁶⁷¹ sad HS — ⁶⁷³ astate u. ö. S. — ⁶⁷⁵ pitiousse H, piteous S
 — ⁶⁷⁶ vndispituouse H — ⁶⁷⁷ showed S — ⁶⁷⁸ farre H, for S ||
 obeisance S — ⁶⁷⁹ p.] reine S — ⁶⁸⁰ r.] recure HS — ⁶⁸² bardge
 u. ö. H

him to bringe agenst the eve,
 withe sertaynge Ladyes, and take leve
 685 and pray him of his gentulnes
 to suffer her thence forthe in peace,
 as other princisse had byfore,
 and from thense forthe, forever more,
 she wold him worshiþe, in all wise
 690 that Jentylnes myght devise,
 and payne her holly to fulfill
 in honor, his pleasure and will.
 And duringe thus this knyghtes woo,
 present the quene and other mo,
 695 my lady and many a nother wight,
 ten thousand shippes, at a syght,
 I sawe come over the wavy floude
 withe sayle and ore, that as I stooode
 them to beholde, I cone marvell
 700 from whence myght come so many a sayle.
 For sythe the tyme that I was bore,
 suche a navy ther before
 had I not sene, ne so arrayed,
 that for the syght myn hart played
 705 two and fro withein my brest
 for Joye — Longe was or it wold rest.
 For ther were sayles full of flowers,
 after castelles withe huge towers,
 seminge full of armes bright,
 710 that wonder lusty was the syght,
 withe large toppes and mastes longe,
 richelye depainte, and ever amonge
 at certen tymes con repayer

683 agaynst HS — 684 certeyne HS || leave u. ö. H —
 37 before HS — 688 thence HS — 689 knights S — 696 at had L
 — 697 wavy S || flood S — 698 oore H — 699 merueyle H, maruaile
 L. ö. S — 700 w. whome HS — 704 pleyd H — 705 to HS — 707 w. was S
 floures u. ö. S — 708 castells HS || h. rytch H || toures S — 709 a.
 rmour H — 712 e. rear S — 718 certeyne HS

smale burdes downe from the eyor,
 715 and on the shippes bordes abowte
 sate and songe, withe voice full owt,
 ballades and leyes, right Joyouslye,
 as they couthe in ther armonye,
 that you to wright that I ther see,
 720 myn excuse is, it may not bee.
 ffor whi the matter were to longe
 to name the birdes and wright her songe.
 Whereof, annon, the thithinges ther
 vnto the quene sonne browght wer,
 725 withe many alas and many a doubte,
 shewinge the shippes there without.
 Tho can the aged lady weppe
 and sayd; 'Allas! *your* yoye on slepe
 sone shalbe browght ye, longe or night,
 730 ffor we distroyed bene by this knyght.
 For certes, it may none other be,
 but he is of yened companie,
 and thay be come him here to seche.'
 And withe that word her fayled the speche.
 735 'Witheout remedy we be distroyed,'
 full ofte sayd all, and con conclude,
 holy at once, at the laste,
 that best was shett ther yattes faste,
 and arme them all in good langage,
 740 as they had done of old *usage*,
 and of fayre wordes make ther shoot.
 This was ther counsell and the knot.

714 Small HS || byrdes HS || ayer H, thaire S — 715 shyppe
 bourdes H, ships bounds S — 716 sunge H — 717 Balades H —
 718 harmony S — 719 write u. ö. HS — 723 tydinges HS — 724 sone
 H, soon u. ö. S — 726 ships S — 727 wepe HS — 728 your | our HS
 || joyes H — 730 d. | descried H, discried S — 732 yonder H, yond S
 — 734 the f. HS — 735 destroid S — 738 shutt H, shit S || yates u. ö.
 HS — 739 Language H, langage u. ö. S — 740 playe L — 741 words
 S || shotte H, shot S — 742 and thi L || knotte H

And other purpose toke they none;
 but armed thus forthe they gone
 745 towarde the walles of the Ile.
 But or they come ther longe while,
 they mette the great lord of above
 that cauled is the god of love,
 that hem advised withe suche chere,
 750 right as he withe them angrye were.
 Avayled them not ther walles of glasse
 this mighty Lord lett not to passe,
 ne shettinge of ther yattes fast.
 All they had ordayned was but wast;
 755 for, when his shipe had founde londe,
 this Lord anone, withe bow in hande,
 in to this Ile withe huge presse
 hyed fast, and wold not ceasse
 tyll he come where this knyght laye.
 760 Of quene ne Ladye by the waye
 toke he no hedd, but fforthe past;
 and yet all followed at the laste.
 And when he come where laye the knight,
 well shewed he, he had great might.
 765 And forthe the quene cauled anone,
 and all the Ladyes everychone,
 and to them sayde; 'Is this not rothe
 to se my servaunte, for his trothe,
 thus lene, thus syke, and in this paine,
 770 and wote not vnto home to plaine,
 saue onlye one witheouten mo,
 wiche might him helle, and is his foo.'

744 armyd H — 745 towardes H || walls S — 746 they the H
 — 747 met S || a. boue S — 749 w. in H — 752 let u. ö. S || to f. H
 — 753 shuttingte HS — 754 ordaind S, done H — 755 whan u. ö. S
 || shippes H, ships S || land HS — 757 prese H, prease u. ö. S —
 758 cease S — 759 th. the HS — 761 hede H, heed S — 762 ffolowyd
 H — 764 shewyd H — 765 And for H — 767 not this HS — 769 leane
 HS — 771 without LS

And withe that word, his herye browe
 he shewed the quene, and loked rowghe.
 775 This mighty Lord forthe tho annone,
 withe *o looke*, her *faultes* echeon,
 he can her shew, in littell speche,
 comaundinge her to be his leche.
 Witheout more, shortlye to saye,
 780 he thawght the quene sonne shuld obye.
 And in his hannd he shoke his bowe,
 and sayd right sone he wolde be know.
 And for she had so longe refused
 his servaunte, and his lawes not vsed,
 785 to lett her witt that he was wrothe,
 and bent his bowe, and forthe he goethe
 a paace or two, and even *there*,
 a large drawght vp to his eare
 he drew, and withe an arrow ground
 790 sharpe and new, the quene a woounde
 he gave, that pearced vnto the harte,
 wiche afterward full sore can smarte,
 and was not holle of many a yere.
 And even withe that, 'Be of good chere,
 795 my knyght,' qouth he, 'I will the hele,
 and the restore to parfyte wele.
 And for eche payne thou hast endured,
 to have two Joyes thou ar ewred.'
 And forthe he past by the rowte,
 800 withe sobre chere walkynge aboute,
 And what he sayd I thought to here.
 Well wist he wiche his servauntes were.

773 h. heavy HS — 774 rowe HS — 776 cloke L, lokes H || f. features L — 777 hir H || speech u. ö. S — 778 letche u. ö. H — 779 withouten HS — 780 thought u. ö. HS || should sone H || obaye HS — 781 hand H, hond u. ö. S — 784 s. servyce HS — 785 wite HS — 786 goth S — 787 th. here L — 790 wound HS — 791 percyd H, piersed S — 793 a f. HS — 796 art HS || ew. assured H

And as he passed, annone he found
 my lady, and her toke by the hande,
 805 and made her chere as a goddesse,
 and of beutye cauled her princesse;
 of bountye eke gave her the name,
 and sayd ther was nothinge blame
 in her, but she was vertuus,
 810 savinge she wolde no pitye vse;
 wiche was the cause he ther her suoght
 to put that faute owt of her thawght.
 And sythe she had the hole riches
 of womanhed and ffrendlynes,
 815 he sayd it was nothinge [f]yttinge
 to voyd petye, his owne looginge,
 and can her preache and withe her playe,
 and of her beawtye tolde her aye.
 And sayd she was a creature
 820 Off whom the name shuld longe dewer,
 and in bookes full of plesaunse
 be put for ever in remembraunce.
 And, as me thowght, more frindlyely
 vnto my ladye and goodlelye
 825 he spake, then any that was there;
 and for the apples, I trow yt were,
 that she had in possession.
 Wherefor, longe in processyon,
 many a paace, arme vnder other
 830 he walked, and so did *with* none other.
 But what he wold comaunde or saye,

⁸⁰³ passyd H — ⁸⁰⁵ goddes S — ⁸⁰⁶ beauty H, beaute S,
 he c. L — ⁸⁰⁹ vertuous HS — ⁸¹¹ ther that S || soughte HS —
⁸¹² f. farre H, far S — ⁸¹³ the f. HS || richesse S — ⁸¹⁵ syttinge
 LHS¹ S² (1602), fitting (Speghts ausgabe 1687) — ⁸¹⁶ voyd H ||
 pitie u. ö. HS || lodginge H, legging S — ⁸¹⁷ preatch u. ö. H —
⁸²⁰ of HS || enduer HS — ⁸²¹ bokes u. ö. H || plesaunce HS —
⁸²⁶ thappuls S — ⁸³⁰ walkt H, welke S

for withe neades all must obeye.
 And what he desyred at the least
 of my ladye, was by requeste.
⁸³⁵ And when they longe together had bene,
 he browght my ladye to the quene,
 and to her sayd; 'So god you spede,
 shewe grace, consentes, that is neade.'
 My ladye tho, full conninglye,
⁸⁴⁰ right well avised *and* womanlye,
 downe cone to knele vppon the flores,
 whiche aprell nurrished had with showers,
 and to this myghtye lord cane saye,
 'That pleassethe you, I woll obeye
⁸⁴⁵ and me restraine from other thought,
 as ye woll, all thinges shalbe wrought.'
 And withe that word, knelinge, she quoke.
 That mightye lord in armes her toke
 and sayd; 'Ye haue a sarvaunte one,
⁸⁵⁰ that trewer liuinge is ther none.
 Wherefore, god were, seinge his trothe,
 that on his paynes ye had rothe,
 and purposed you to here his speche,
 ffullye avised him to leche.
⁸⁵⁵ For of one thinge ye may be suer,
 he wilbe youre, while he may duer.'
 And withe that word, right on his game,
 me thought, he lowghe and tolde my name,
 wiche was to me marvell and fere,
⁸⁶⁰ that what to do I nist there;
 ne whither me was better or none
 ther to abyde or thence to gone.

⁸³² Forth HS || nedes H, needs u. ö. S — ⁸³³ lest HS — ⁸³⁸ consent
 HS — ⁸⁴⁰ right f. H — ⁸⁴¹ flowers H, floures S — ⁸⁴² aprill HS ||
 noryshed HS || shoures S — ⁸⁴⁴ pleaseth S, pleasith H — ⁸⁴⁶ thing
 S — ⁸⁵¹ good HS — ⁸⁵² ye| he S — ⁸⁵³ purpose HS — ⁸⁵⁷ on| in
 H — ⁸⁵⁸ laughte H — ⁸⁵⁹ feare u. ö. H — ⁸⁶⁰ n. t. | wist nere H —
⁸⁶¹ ne| nor H || whether HS || bet S — ⁸⁶² then| thus S || to f. H

ffor well wend I my ladye wolde
 Imagen, or deme, that I had tolde
⁸⁶⁵ My counsell hole, or made complainte
 vnto that lorde, that mightye saynte.
 So verelye eche thinge vnsawght
 he sayd, as he had know my thought,
 and tolde my trothe and myn vnease
⁸⁷⁰ Bet then I couthe for myn ease,
 tho I had studied all a weake.
 Well wist that lord that I was syke,
 and wold be leched wonder ffaine.
 No mane me blame, myne was ye paine.
⁸⁷⁵ And when this lord had all sayd,
 and longe with my ladye playd,
 she can to smyle withe sprite glade.
 This was the answer that she mad,
 wiche put me there in dowble paine,
⁸⁸⁰ that what to do, ne what to sayne
 wist I not, ne what was the best.
 Fare was myn harte tho from his rest,
 for as I thowght that smylinge sygne
 was token that the hart inclyne
⁸⁸⁵ wold to request reasonable,
 by cause smylinge is favorable
 to every thinge that shall thrive,
 so thowght I tho and on belyve,
 that wordeles answer in to towne
⁸⁹⁰ was tane for obligacyon,
 ne cauled sewertye, in no wyse,

⁸⁶⁴ deeme u. ö. H — ⁸⁶⁷ verly HS — ⁸⁶⁸ knowne HS —
⁸⁶⁹ treuth H — ⁸⁷⁰ better H || c. haue HS — ⁸⁷¹ though S ||
 weke H, weeke u. ö. S — ⁸⁷² seeke u. ö. S — ⁸⁷³ leachyd H —
⁸⁷⁷ she he H || spirite HS — ⁸⁸¹ the f. H — ⁸⁸² farre H, fer S ||
 t. then S || ffro HS — ⁸⁸⁴ enclyne HS — ⁸⁸⁵ requestes H, requests
 S || reasnable L — ⁸⁸⁶ because S — ⁸⁸⁸ a. o. anon HS || blyve HS
 — ⁸⁸⁹ wordlesse H, worldlesse S || to no HS || towe L — ⁸⁹⁰ w. is
 H || takenne H || obligacon H, obligacioun S — ⁸⁹¹ suertie H,
 surety u. ö. S

amonges them that cauled bene wise.
 Thus was I in a Joyous doubte,
 suer and vnsurest of that rowte.
⁸⁹⁵ Right as myn hart thougth it were,
 so more or lesse woxe my ffere,
 that yf one thougth made it well,
 annother shente yt everye deale,
 till, at the last, I couthe no more,
⁹⁰⁰ but porposed, as I dyd before,
 to serve trewlye my lyves space,
 awaytinge ever the yere of grace,
 wiche may fall yet or I sterue,
 yf it please her that I serve
⁹⁰⁵ and served haue and wildo ever.
 For thinge is none that me is lever
 then her seruice, whose presence
 myn heuen is hole, and her absence
 an hell full of diuerse paines
⁹¹⁰ wiche to the deathe full oft me straynes.
 Thus in my thougthtes, as I stode,
 that vnethe felt I harme ne good,
 I sawe the quene at littell paae
 come where this mightye lord was,
⁹¹⁵ and kneled downe in presence there
 of all the ladyes that ther were,
 withe sobre countenance avised,
 in fewe wordes that well sufficed,
 And to this lord, annon, pressent
⁹²⁰ a byll, wherin hol her intente
 was writton, and how she besowght,
 as he knew every will and thought,

⁸⁹² amonge H, amongst S — ⁸⁹³ dout S — ⁸⁹⁴ Sewer H, Sure
 u. ö. S — ⁸⁹⁶ wex S — ⁸⁹⁷ wele HS — ⁸⁹⁸ another HS || dele HS
 — ⁹⁰⁰ purpose H, purposed S — ⁹⁰² awaightinge H — ⁹⁰⁵ servyd
 H || wol S — ⁹¹¹ thoughts S — ⁹¹² vnneth HS — ⁹¹³ at a HS ||
 paas S — ⁹¹⁵ knele H — ⁹¹⁷ countenaunce HS — ⁹¹⁹ present HS
 — ⁹²⁰ entent u. ö. HS

that of his godhede and his grace
 he wold forgeue all old trespase,
 925 and vndispleased be of tyme past,
 for she wold ever be stedfaste,
 and in his seruice to the deathe
 vse every thought, wall she had breathe,
 and syght and wepte and sayde no more.
 930 Withein was wrytton all the sore.
 At wiche bill the lord cane smyle
 and sayd he wold withein that Ile
 be Lord and syr, bothe est *and* west.
 And cauled it ther his new conquest;
 935 and in great counsell toke the quene.
 Longe were the tales them betwene.
 And over her bill he rede thrise,
 and wonder gladlye con devise
 her features fayer, and hir visage,
 940 and bad good thurifte on that Image,
 and sayd he trowed her complaynet
 shuld after cause her be corseint.
 And in his sleve he put the bill.
 Was ther none that knewe his will.
 945 And forthe walked apace abowte
 beholdinge all the lustye rowte,
 halfe in a thowght, withe smylinge chere,
 till, at the last, as ye shall here,
 he torned and to the quene agayne
 950 and sayd; 'To morne, here, in this playne,
 I woll ye be, and all yours
 that purposed bene to were flowers,

924 forgyve u. ö. HS — 925 vndispleasyd H — 926 w. | while
 HS || breth u. ö. H — 928 east H — 924 cauld H, cald S —
 926 betweene u. ö. S — 927 o. | euer HS || hir u. ö. H || redd H, read
 S — 929 fetures H — 931 compleynt HS — 932 oo. | a seynt H, in
 anm. S "corseint, read Forsent" — 933 sleeve u. ö. S || t. | her H
 — 935 f. he w. HS || walkte H, walke S — 939 turned HS || a. t. |
 vnto HS — 950 morow H — 952 purposyd H || weare HS

or of my lustye collours vse.
It may not be to you excuse,
⁹⁵⁵ ne none of youres, in no wyse,
that able be to my seruice.
For as I sayd haue here before,
I woll be lord for evermore
of you, and of this Ile and all,
⁹⁶⁰ and of all youres that haue shall
Joye, peace, or easse, or in pleasaunce
your lives vse witheoute mischaunce.
Here will I in estate be sene,⁹
and turned his visage to the quene,
⁹⁶⁵ *And* you geve knowledge of my will,
And A full answere of youre bill.⁹
Was ther non ney, ne wordes none,
but very obeysaunt semed eche one,
quene and other that were there.
⁹⁷⁰ *Well* semed yt, they had great feare.
And toke lodginge every wyght.
Was none departed of that night.
And some to reade old romansys
hem occupied for ther pleasaunces,
⁹⁷⁵ some to make virleyes *and* leyes,
and some to other diuerse pleyes.
And I to me a romaunse toke,
and as I readinge was the booke,
me thowght the spere had so rone
⁹⁸⁰ that it was risinge of the sonne,
and suche a presse into the playne
assemble con, that withe great paine
one might for other go ne stande,

⁹⁵³ colour S — ⁹⁵⁵ ne| nor H || yours u. ö. S, yors H —
⁹⁶¹ or¹ f. HS || ease HS — ⁹⁶² m.| noysaunce HS — ⁹⁶³ state S —
⁹⁶⁵ gyve u. ö. HS — ⁹⁶⁷ non| no HS || ne| no H || words S —
⁹⁶⁸ obeisant S — ⁹⁷¹ a. there t. HS || w.| night S — ⁹⁷³ Romances HS —
⁹⁷⁵ verlayes HS — ⁹⁷⁸ redinge H — ⁹⁷⁹ Sphere H, Spheare S || ronne H,
run S u. ö. — ⁹⁸⁰ the f. HS || sun u. ö. S — ⁹⁸¹ prees u. ö. S — ⁹⁸² c.| gone S

ne none take other by the hand
 985 witheouten they distorbed were,
 so huge and great the presse was ther,
 And after that, within two oweres,
 this mightye lord, all in flowers
 of diuerse coloures, many a payer,
 990 in his estate vp in the eyer,
 well to fadome, as his hight,
 he sett him ther in all ther syght,
 and for the quene, and for ye knyght,
 and for my ladye, and every wyght
 995 in hast he sende, so that never one
 was ther absent, but come echeon.
 And when thay thus assembled were,
 as ye haue hard me saye you here,
 witheout more tarringe, on hight,
 1000 ther to be sene of everye wyght,
 vp stood, amonge the presse above,
 a counseler, seruaunt of love,
 wiche semed well of great estate,
 and shewed ther how no debate
 1005 ofte, ne goodlye, might be vsed
 in gentullnes and be excussed;
 wherefore, he sayd, his lordes will
 was every wyght there shuld be still,
 and in peace and one accorde,
 1010 and thus comaunded at a word.
 And cane his tonge to suche laungauge
 turne, that yet in all his age

984 hamd L — 985 disturbed HS — 986 prease u. ö. H —
 987 howers H, houres S u. ö. — 990 aire u. ö. S — 991 fathome
 H, fathum S || a.] was H || heighte u. ö. H — 992 set u. ö. S — 993 sent
 HS || n. a o. H — 997 assemblyd H — 998 tarrienge H, tarrying S —
 1001 stode H — 1002 counseller H, counsailer S u. ö. — 1003 o.] ought
 H, owe S, in anm. S “owe ne, read Other then” || vsyd H —
 1007 lords S — 1009 pees u. ö. S — 1011 tounge H, tongue S u. ö. |
 swiche S — 1012 tu.] tune H || h.] myne HS

hard I never so coninglye
 Man speke, ne halfe so faythefullye.
 1015 For every thinge he sayd there
 semed as it insealed were,
 or appreued for very trew.
 Shuche was his conninge langage new,
 and well accordinge to his chere,
 1020 that where I be, me thinke I here
 him yet alwaye, when I my one
 in any place may be allone.
 ffirst con he of the lustye Ile
 all the astate in little while
 1025 reherse, and hollye every thinge
 that caused ther his lordes cominge,
 and everye wele and every wo,
 and for what cause eche thinge was so,
 well shewed he there, in easye speche,
 1030 and how the syke had nede of leche,
 and who that whole was *and* in grace.
He told playnelye how eche thinge was,
 and at the last he con conclude,
 voydinge every language rude,
 1035 and sayd that prince, that mightye lord,
 or his depertinge, wold accomde
 all the perties ther presente,
 and was the fyne of his entente.
 'Wittnesse his presence in *your* syght,
 1040 whiche syttes amonge you in his might.'
 And kneled downe witheowten more,
 and no o word spoke he more.

1013 herd u. ö. H — 1016 seamyd H || insealyd H — 1018 S.
 wch H, swiche S — 1020 b.] am H — 1021 myne HS || owne H —
 1022 can u. ö. H — 1025 reherce H, rehearse S u. ö. — 1026 com-
 ming u. ö. S — 1030 t.] that H — 1031 who f. HS || was hole H
 — 1032 ho.] why HS — 1031 voyded HS — 1036 departinge HS —
 1037 pties H, parties S — 1038 a.] that H — 1039 Wittnesse u. ö. HS
 — 1040 sits S — 1041 knelyd H — 1042 n.] not HS || o.] one H ||
 spake S

Tho can this mightye lord him dresse,
 withe chere avised to do largesse,
 1045 and sayd vnto this knyght and me,
 'Ye shall to Joye restored be,
 and for ye haue bene trewe, ye twayne,
 I graunte you here, for every payne,
 a thousand Joyes everye wecke,
 1050 and look ye be no lenger syke.
 And bothe *your* ladyes, Lo! them here,
 Take eche his owne, beth of good chere.
 Your happye daye is now begonne
 sythe yt was rissinge of the sunee.
 1055 And to all other in this place,
 I graunt hollye to staund in grace,
 that seruethe trewlye, witheout slowthe,
 and to anaunced be by trothe.'
 Tho can this knyght and I downe knele,
 1060 weninge to do wonder well,
 Sayinge, 'O Lord! *your* great mercye
 vs hathe enriched so openly,
 that we deserue may never more
 the least parte, but ever more,
 1065 withe sowle and bodye trulye serve
 you and your[els] till we starve.'
 And to oure ladyes, ther they stood,
 this knyght, that cothe so mikle good.
 whent in hast, and I allso.
 1070 Joyeux and glad were we tho.
 and as riche in everye thowght.
 as he that all hathe and owe nowght.

1040 wecke u. 5. HS — 1050 longer HS — 1061 hem u. 5. S —
 1062 T. That L. be H. both S — 1070 new S begun S — 1071 Sonne
 H, sun S u. 5. — 1066 grant S || stand HS — 1067 To be franchised
 by their truth H — 1068 Wonderous H || weele H. wele S —
 1069 s. Seinge HS — 1071 lest u. 5. H — 1072 starve u. 5. HS —
 1073 o. their HS — 1074 myckle H. mikle. S u. 5. — 1075 went
 HS — 1076 as all so H. also S — 1077 owith H. ought S

and them besoute, in humble wise,
 vs taccepte to ther seruice,
 1075 and shewe vs of ther frendlye cheres,
 wiche in ther treasure many yeres
 they kepte had, vs to great paine,
 and tolde that seruauntes twayne
 were, and wolde be, and so had ever,
 1080 and for the deathe chaunge wold we never,
 ne do offence, ne thinge leke yll,
 but full ther ordinaunce and will.
 And made oure othes freshe new,
 our olde seruaunce to renewe,
 1085 and hollye thers for ever more
 we ther become, what might we more!
 and well awaytinge that in slowghth
 we made no faute, ne in no trothe,
 ne thowght not, do I you ensure,
 1090 withe oure will, while we may duer.
 This season past, againse an eve,
 this lord of the quene toke leve,
 and sayd he wold hastelye retorne,
 and at good leasure there soiorne,
 1095 bothe for his honor and her ease,
 comaundinge fast the knyght to please,
 and gave his statutes in papers,
 and ordayned diuerse officers,
 and forthe to shipe the same nyght
 1100 he wente, and sone was owt of syght.
 And on the morrow, when the ayere
 attempred was, and wether fayer,

1073 besought HS — 1074 to. into H — 1076 treasurer H — 1078 th. s.
 how their Services HS — 1080 f. to HS || we f. H — 1081 like HS —
 1082 fyll HS || a. their w. H — 1084 Service HS — 1087 slouth HS —
 1088 noⁱ ne S || no^j our HS — 1090 wh. where S — 1091 agayne HS
 || an on H — 1094 at as S || leysuer H, leisure S u. ö. — 1095 a.
 for h. HS || her his HS — 1098 ordeynt H, ordent S — 1102 attempred
 S, attempre H || we. wonderous H, wonder S

erlye at rysinge of the sonne,
 after the nyght awaye was ronne,
 1105 playinge vs on the rivage,
 my Lady spake of her viage,
 And sayd she made smale Jorneys,
 and held her in straunge conteryes.
 And forthewithe to the quene went,
 1110 and shewed her holly her entent,
 and toke her leve withe chere wepinge,
 that petye it was to se that partinge.
 ffor to the quene it was a paine,
 as to a martyre new Islayne.
 1115 That for her woo, and she so tender,
 yt wepe I ofte, when I remembre.
 She offered there to resyne
 to my ladye, eyght tymes or nyne,
 thastate, the Ile, shortlye to tell,
 1120 Yf it might please her ther to dwell.
 And sayd for ever her linage
 shuld to my lady do omage
 and herrs be holl, witheowten more,
 they and all thers for ever more.
 1125 'Naye, god forbyde!' my ladye ofte
 withe many connynge wordes *and* softe
 sayd, 'that ever suche thinge shuld bene,
 that I consent shulde, that a quene
 of youre estate and so well named,
 1130 in any wise shuld be entamed;
 but wold be fayne withe all my hart,

1103 early u. ö. S — 1104 af. when H — 1105 viadge H, voiage
 S u. ö. — 1107 m. would H || iournies u. ö. S — 1108 hel. hyde H
 || contryes H, countries S u. ö. — 1112 it f. HS || to f. S || that
 theyr H — 1114 slayne L — 1116 y. yet HS || I weepe S || remember
 HS — 1117 offerd S, offers H || ther L || resigne HS — 1122 homage
 HS — 1123 hers HS || hole HS — 1124 They ye HS — 1125 forbydd
 H || eft S — 1126 m. a c. H || word HS — 1129 namyd H —
 1130 atamyd H, attamed S — 1131 hert S

what so befell, or how me smarte,
to do thinge that you might please
in any wise, or be your ease.
1135 And kysed ther and bad good nyght.
For wiche leve wepte many a wyght.
Ther might men here my ladye preysed,
and suche a name of her arrayssed,
what of connyng and fryndlyenes,
1140 what of beautye withe Jentulnes,
what of glad and frendlye cheres,
that she vsed in all her yeres,
that wonder was here every wight
to saye well how they did ther might;
1145 and withe a prese, vppon the morrowe,
to shipe her browght, and with a sorrowe
they made when she shuld vnder sayle,
that, and ye wyst, ye wold mervayle.
fforthe goethe the shipe, owt goethe the sonde,
1150 and I, as wood man vnbownde,
for dowbte to be behinde there,
into the see, witheowten feare,
annone I ranne, till withe a wave
All sodenly I was overthrowghe.
1155 and withe the water, to and fro,
bacwarde and forward, traveled so
that mynd and brethe nyghe was gone,
that for good ne harme knew I none;
till at the last withe hockes twayne,
1160 men of the shipe withe mickle paine,
to save my lyve dyd suche travell,
that, and ye wyst, ye wold mervell,

1132 smert u. ö. HS — 1135 kyssed HS || b.] had H — 1136 leve
f. H || w. tho m. H — 1138 araysed HS — 1139 conyng H —
1143 was to h. H — 1145 prees HS — 1146 w.] what HS || sorowe u.
ö. H — 1149 goith u. ö. H || Sound H — 1150 vnbond S — 1152 fere
u. ö. HS — 1153 ran HS || vntill H || wawe HS — 1154 -thrawe
HS — 1156 backward HS || traunayled HS — 1158 that f. HS —
1159 hookes HS || twoyne H, twene S — 1162 mervayle u. ö. HS

and in the shipe me drew on highe,
 and sayden all that I wold dye,
 1165 and layd me longe downe by the maste,
 And of ther clothes vppon me caste.
 And ther I made my testament,
 and wyst my selfe not what I mente;
 but when I sayd had what I wolde,
 1170 and to the mast my wo all toulde,
 and tane my leve at everye wight,
 and closyd myn eyne, and lost my syght,
 avised to dye witheout more speche,
 or any remedye to seche,
 1175 of grace newe, as was grete ned,
 my ladye of my paine toke hede,
 and her bethought, how that for trothe,
 to se me dye it were great routhe;
 and to me came, in sobre wyse,
 1180 and softelye sayd; 'I praye you ryse,
 come on withe me, let be this fare,
 all shall be well, haue ye no care.
 I woll obey ye and fulfyll
 holly in all that lordes will,
 1185 that you and me not longe ago,
 after his Liste comaunded so,
 that ther agayne no resistance
 may be withe out great offence.
 And therefore, here now what I saye,
 1190 I am and wolbe frindlye aye.
 Ryse vp, beholde, this avauntage
 I graunt you in erytage,
 peaseble withe owt stryve,
 duringe the dayes of your lyfe.
 1195 And of her apples in my sleve

1166 vp.] on HS — 1170 tolde HS — 1171 at] of HS — 1172 closed
 S || eyen S — 1175 great u. ö. HS — 1183 full- H — 1184 lords S —
 1186 l.] will H — 1187 resistance HS — 1191 advauntage H —
 1192 heritage HS — 1193 peaceably HS — 1194 Lyve HS

one she put, and toke her leve
 in wordes few, and sayd; 'Good hele,
 he that all made, you send and wele.'
 Wherewithe my paines, all at once,
 1200 toke suche leve, that all my bones
 for the newe onrewse pleasaunce,
 so as they cothe, desyred to daunce.
 And I, as hole as any wyght,
 vprose withe Joyoux harte and light,
 1205 hole and vnsyke, right well at ease,
 and all forgett had my diseace.
 And to my ladye where she playd,
 I went annone and to her sayd;
 'He that all Joyes, persones to plese,
 1210 ffirst ordayned withe perfyte ease,
 and every pleasure cane departe,
 send you, madame, as large parte,
 and of his goodes suche plentye
 as he has done you of bewtye,
 1215 withe hele and all that maye be thowght,
 he send you all, as he all wrought.
 Madame,' quod I, 'your servaunte trewe
 haue I byne longe, and yet woll new,
 witheowten chaunge or repentaunce
 1220 in any wise, or variaunce.
 And so wol do, as thrive I ever,
 for thing is none that me is lever
 then you to please, however I fare,
 myn hartes Ladye, and my welfare,
 1225 my lyfe, myn hele, my leche also,
 of every thinge that dothe me wo,
 myn helpe at ned and my suertye

1197 words S — 1199 ones S — 1201 o.] duringe H, durense S —
 1202 couth HS — 1204 vpp rist H — 1205 wele S — 1206 forget S,
 forgott H — 1207 played H — 1209 please u. ö. HS — 1210 parfite
 u. ö. S — 1212 l a p. HS — 1213 goods S — 1214 hath H —
 1219 without HS — 1225 my u. ö. H — 1227 surete S

of everye Joye that longes to me,
 my succors hole, in all wyse,
 1230 that may be thowght or man devise.
 Your grace, madame, suche have I found
 now in my nead, that I am bound
 to you for ever, so christ me saue!
 for hele and lyve of you I haue.
 1235 Wherefore is reason I you serue
 withe dew obeysaunce till I starue.
 And so I wildo, by my trothe,³
 quod I, 'madame, withe out slouth.
 and dead and quicke be ever youre,
 1240 late, erlye, and at all owers.'³
 Tho can my ladye smyle a lyte,
 and in playne englyshe *con* consyte
 in wordes fewe. *Holl* her entent
 she shewed me ther. And how she ment
 1245 to meward, in every wyse,
 holly she can all ther devise
 witheout prosses or longe travell.
 charginge me to kepe counsell,
 as I wold to her grace attayne;
 1250 of wiche comaundemente I was fayne.
 Wherefore I passe over at this tyme,
 for counsell cordes not well in ryme,
 and eak the othe that I haue swore,
 To breke, me were bet vnore.
 1255 Whi for vntrewe for ever more
 I shuld be hold, that never more

1229 succours S, succour H — 1234 lyfe H — 1235 reasoun S —
 1236 due HS || obedience H -- 1237, 1238 f. S || 1238 Or else that I lyve
 were it ruth H — 1241 c.] came HS || a.] small HS || a lyte in heller
 tinte L, alite S, alight e H — 1242 con] on L || cons.] resighte H —
 1243 words S — 1246 c. a.] came at S || a. t.] there all H —
 1247 proces H, processe S — 1248 chardinge H || keepe u. ö. S —
 1251 a.] for H — 1252 accordes H — 1253 eke HS — 1254 breake u. ö.
 HS || better HS — 1256 h.] held H

of me in place shuld be report
thinge that avayle might, or comfort
to mewardes in any wysse.

1260 And eke wyght wold me dispice
in that they couthe, and me repreve,
whiche were a thinge sore for to greve;
wherefore, hereof more mencyon
make I not now, ne longe sermone,
1265 but shortlye thus I me excuse.

To ryme a counsell I refuse.

Saylinge thus two dayes or thre,
my Ladye towardes her cunteryne,
over the waves, highe and grene,
1270 wiche were large and depe betwene,
vppon a tyme me cauled, and sayd
that of my hele she was well paide.
And of the quene and of the Jle,
she taled withe me longe while,
1275 and of all that she there had sene,
and of thastate, and of the quene,
and of the Ladyes name by name,
two owers or mo, this was her game,
till at the last the wynde can ryse,
1280 and blew so fast and in suche wyse
the shipe, that every wyght con saye;
'Madame, or eve be of this daye,
and god to fore, ye shalbe there,
as ye wold faynest that ye were.
1285 And doubte not th[at] witheyn *six* owres
ye shalbe there, as all is youres.'
At whiche wordes she cane to smyle,
and sayd that was no longe while

1260 -wordes H || wise S — 1260 e.] ech HS || dispise HS —
1266 refuse HS — 1268 cuntre H, countree u. ö. S — 1269 greene u. ö. S —
1270 deepe u. ö. S || betwene L — 1272 apayd H — 1274 talyd H, talked S —
1276 the estate HS — 1279 con HS — 1282 madae L — 1283 toforne
H — 1285 d. ye n. H || th[at] f. HS || s.] vj L

that they hur sett, and vp she rosse,
¹²⁹⁰ and all abowt the shipe she goes,
 and mad good chere to everye wyght,
 till of the londe she had syght.
 Of wiche syght glad, god yt wote,
 she was, and basshed annon a boote,
¹²⁹⁵ and forthe goethe, shortlye you to tell,
 where she accustomed was to dwell,
 and receyved was, as good right,
 withe Joyeux chere and hartes light,
 and as a glad newe aventure,
¹³⁰⁰ pleasaunte to every creature.

Withe whiche landinge tho I woke,
 and found my chaumbre full of smoke,
 my chekes eke vnto the eares,
 And all my body weate of teares.
¹³⁰⁵ And all so feble and in suche wise
 I was, that vnethe might I rise.
 So fare traveled and so feynt,
 that neithe knew I kyrk ne saynt,
 ne what was what, ne who was who,
¹³¹⁰ navysed what wey I wolde goo.
But by a ventures grace
 I ryse, and welke sawght paace and pace
 till I a windinge stayer founde,
 and helde the vice ay in my hand,
¹³¹⁵ and vpwardes sauftelye so can crepe,
 till I cam where I thowght to slepe
 more at myn ease, and owt of presse,

¹²⁸⁰ her HS || rose HS — ¹²⁹⁰ gose HS — ¹²⁹² Land HS || h. a s.
 HS — ¹²⁹⁴ abasshed, L, abashed S || b. ann. | cauled H || boate H —
¹²⁹⁶ accustomed u. ö. HS — ¹²⁹⁹ adventuer H — ¹³⁰⁰ pleasinge H
 — ¹³⁰² cha(u)mber H, chamber S u. ö. — ¹³⁰³ ekes H — ¹³⁰⁴ wett
 H — ¹³⁰⁵ feeble S ¹³⁰⁶ vnneth HS — ¹³⁰⁷ farre H — ¹³⁰⁸ neither
 H || church H — ¹³¹⁰ goe HS — ¹³¹¹ by f. L || venterous H,
 venturous S — ¹³¹² w. | walkt HS || s. | soft H, sought S —
¹³¹³ staire S — ¹³¹⁴ vyse H — ¹³¹⁵ vpward HS || softly u. ö. HS —
¹³¹⁷ preace S

at my good leysure, and in peace,
till somewhat I recoumfort were
1320 of the travell, and great feare
that I indured had before.
This was my thought, witheowt more.
And as a wyght, wittles and faynte,
witheout more, in a chaumbre painte
1325 full of storyes, old and diverse,
more then I cane now reherse;
vnto a bed full soberlye,
so as I might full sauftelye,
pace after other, and nothinge sayd,
1330 till at the last downe I me layde.
And as my mynd wolde geue me leve,
all that I dremed had that eve,
before all I con reherse,
right as a childe at skole his vearse
1335 dothe after that he thinkethe to thrive,
right so did I; for all my lyve
I thawght to haue in remembraunce
bothe the paine and the pleasaunce,
the dreame, hole as yt me befell,
1340 wiche was as ye here me tell.
Thus in my thowghtes as I laye,
that happy or vnhappye daye,
woote I not, so haue I blame,
of the two wiche is the name,
1345 befell me so, that ther a thought
by processe new on slepe me browght,
and me gouerned so in a while
that, agayne, witheyn the Ile
me thawght I was, whereof the knyght
1350 and of the ladyes I had a syght.

1318 m. ny H — 1319 recomfort HS — 1323 witlesse S — 1326 moe
H — 1327 bedd u. ö. H — 1329 sa. southly S — 1334 schole H, schoole
S || verse HS — 1341 thoughts S, thought H — 1343 wott H, wot S
— 1347 g. s. so governd H — 1350 A. I o. H || I f. H

And were assembled on a grene,
 knyght and Lady withe the quene.
 At wiche assemble ther was sayd,
 how they all content and payd
 1355 were holly as in that othinge,
 that the knyght ther shuld be kynge;
 and thay wold all for suer wytnes
 wedded be, bothe more and lesse,
 in remembraunce witheout more.
 1360 thus they concente forever more.
 And was concluded that the knyght
 departe shulde, the same nyght,
 and forthewithe ther toke his viage
 to Jorneye for his mariage,
 1365 and retorne withe suche an ooste,
 that weddid might be lest and most.
 This was concluded, writton and sealed,
 that yt might not be repeled
 in no wyse, but aye be fyrme,
 1370 and all shulde be withe in a terme,
 witheowt more excusacyon,
 bothe feaste and coronacyon.
 This knyght, wiche had thereof the charge,
 annone, into a littull barge
 1375 browght was, late ageynst ane eve,
 where of all he toke his leave.
 Wiche barge was a manes thowght,
 after his pleasure it him browght;
 the quene her selfe accostomed aye
 1380 in the same barge to pleye.

1352 Ladies H — 1353 assembly HS — 1355 of. HS —
 1357 wittnesse H — 1359 remembraunce H — 1360 consent u. ö.
 HS — 1364 J. prepare H || maryadge H, marriage S u. ö. —
 1365 hoost H, host S u. ö. — 1366 wedded S || moost u. ö. H —
 1367 sealyd H — 1368 repealyd H, repealed S — 1371 excusacon H,
 excusation S — 1372 coronacon H, coronation S — 1377 wa. as a S
 || mans HS — 1378 i. to S — 1380 b. ffor to H

Yt nedethe nether mast ne rother.
 I haue not hard of suche another.
 Ne master for the gouernaunce,
 hit sayled by thowght and by pleasaunce,
 1385 witheowt labor, est or west,
 all was one, calme and tempest.
 And I wente withe at his requeste,
 and was the first prayed to the fest.
 And he come in his cuntrye,
 1390 and passed had the wavy sea,
 in an hauen depe and large
 he left his riche and noble barge,
 and to the court, shortlye to tell,
 he wente, where he wont was to dwell.
 1395 and was receyved as good right
 as heyre, and for a worthi knyght,
 withe all the stattes of the lande,
 wiche come annon at his first sende,
 withe glad spirites full of trothe,
 1400 Lothe to do faute or withe a slouth
 Attaynte be, in any wyse.
 Ther riches was ther olde service,
 wiche ever trew had be founde,
 sythe first inhabyte was the lond.
 1405 And so receyved ther there kynge
 that forgotten was nothings
 that owe to be done, ne might please,
 ne ther soverayne lord do ease,

1381 nedith H || neither HS || nor H || roother H — 1383 n.] no
 S, without H || m.] maister S — 1384 h.] Hie S || by³ f. HS —
 1385 w. l.] Labourles H || l. both e. HS — 1386 an.] or HS — 1387 w.
 hym a. H — 1388 And was the ffyrst that prayd for ye feast H
 — 1389 a.] when HS || i.] nye H || cuntrey H — 1390 see S —
 1391 an.] a H — 1394 was wont H — 1397 states HS — 1398 a.] sond
 S — 1399 spirits S — 1403 true H || fond S — 1401 Synce H —
 1405 ther] they H || there] her S — 1406 forgott H — 1407 o.] ought
 H || ne] or H — 1408 ne] Or H || Sovereigne H

and withe them so, shortlye to saye,
¹⁴¹⁰ as they of custome had done aye.
For seven yere past was and more,
the father. the olde, wyse and hoore,
kinge of the lande toke his leue
of all his barones one an eve,
¹⁴¹⁵ and tolde them how his dayes past
were all, and comen was the laste,
and hartelye prayd him to remembre
his sonne, wiche yonge was and tender,
that borne was ther prince to be,
¹⁴²⁰ yf he retorne to that cuntrye
might, by aventure or grace,
withein any tyme or space,
and to be trewe and frindlye aye,
as they to him had bene allweye.
¹⁴²⁵ Thus he them prayd, withe owt more,
and toke his leve for evermore.
Knowne was, how in tender age
this younge prince a great viage
oncouth and straunge onors to sekche
¹⁴³⁰ toke on hand, withe littull speche,
wiche was to seke a princes
that he desyred more then riches
for her great name that flowred so,
that in that tyme ther was no moo
¹⁴³⁵ of her estate, ne so well named,
for borne was none that ever hir blamed.
Of wiche princes, sumewhat before
here haue I spoke, and sonne will more.

¹⁴¹¹ seaven H || yeares H || past f. HS — ¹⁴¹² The olde father
H || hoare H, hore S — ¹⁴¹⁶ come H — ¹⁴¹⁷ hartily S || prayed
HS || remember HS — ¹⁴²⁰ returnde H — ¹⁴²¹ or by g. H —
¹⁴²⁵ wthouten H — ¹⁴²⁷ known HS || how f. H || tender in S —
¹⁴³⁰ honor H, honours S u. ö. || setche H, seche S — ¹⁴³⁰ o.] in HS ||
w. l. | wthout H || speatche H — ¹⁴³¹ seeke H — ¹⁴³³ h.] his S || fflowrd
H — ¹⁴³⁴ that her H — ¹⁴³⁵ namyd H — ¹⁴³⁷ some HS — ¹⁴³⁸ s.] some S

So thus befell as ye shall here,
 1440 vnto ther lord they made suche chere
 that Joye was. there to be presente
 to se ther trothe and how they ment,
 so very glade they were echeone,
 that them amonge ther was not one
 1445 that desyred more riches,
 than for ther Lord suche a princes,
 that they might please and that were fayer'
 for faste desyred they an heyer,
 and sayd great suertye were I wis.
 1450 And as they were speginge of this,
 The prince hime selfe him avised,
 and in playne englyshe vndisgised,
 them shewed hole his Jorneye,
 and of ther counsell can them praye,
 1455 and tolde how he ensured was,
 and how his daye he might not passe
 witheowt dishonor and great blame,
 and to him for ever a shame.
 And of ther counsell and advise
 1460 ther he prayed them, once or twyse,
 and that they wolde withe in ten dayes
 advise and ordayne him suche wayes,
 so that it were no displeasaunce,
 ne to this reme over great greuaunce,
 1465 and that he haue might to his feaste
 Sixti thousannd, at the leaste,
 for his intente withe in short while
 was to retorne vnto this Ile

1441 n. no S — 1446 then HS — 1447 they| hym H || plese H — 1448 f. |
 mutch H || heyre HS — 1449 s. it w. HS — 1450 speakinge HS — 1451 him⁹ |
 well H — 1452 vndisguysed HS — 1455 ho. | them H || Insured H
 — 1456 ho. | that H || d. | terme H — 1457 d. | disfame S — 1458 and f.
 H || a. | endlesse H — 1460 prayeth H, prayth S — 1461 tenne H —
 1464 ne | nor H || th. | his H || grievance S — 1467 i. was w. H —
 1468 w. | for H || v. | to H || th. | his S

that he came fro, and kepe his daye,
¹⁴⁷⁰ for nothinge wolde he be awaye.
 To counsell tho the lordes annone
 into a chaumbre everychon
 together went, them to devyse
 how they might best, and in what wise,
¹⁴⁷⁵ purveye for ther lordes pleasaunce
 and the realmes contynnaunce
 of honor, whiche in it before
 had contynewed evermore.
 So at the last they founde the weys,
¹⁴⁸⁰ how, witheyn the next fyftene dayes,
 all myght withe paine and diligence
 be done, and cast what the dispence
 might draw and, in conclusyon,
 made for eache thinge prouisyon.
¹⁴⁸⁵ When this was done hollye tofore,
 the prince, the lordes all before
 come, and shewed what they had done,
 and how they couthe, by no reason,
 fynde that within the *ten* dayes
¹⁴⁹⁰ he myght departe, by no wise,
 but wolde be *fyftene* at least,
 or he retorne might to his feaste,
 and shewed him every reason whi
 yt myght not be so hastelye
 as he desyred, ne his daye
 he might not kepe by no waye,
¹⁴⁹⁵ for diverse causes, wonder greate;
 wiche, when he hard, in suche a heate
 he fell for sorrowe, and was syke

¹⁴⁷³ together u. ö. HS — ¹⁴⁷⁶ continuance S, contynewance H —
¹⁴⁷⁸ continued S — ¹⁴⁸² be done f. H || expence H — ¹⁴⁸⁴ eche HS —
¹⁴⁸⁶ lords S — ¹⁴⁸⁹ tenne H — ¹⁴⁹⁰ b. in H || w. wayes HS — ¹⁴⁹¹ at the l.
 HS — ¹⁴⁹⁴ hastily S — As he desyred . . . by no waye f. H —
¹⁴⁹⁶ wonderous H — ¹⁴⁹⁶ a. an HS — ¹⁴⁹⁷ seke u. ö. S

Stil in his bed hole that weake,
 and nyghe the tother for the shame,
 1500 and for the dowbte. and for the blame
 that might on him be arette.
 And oft vppon his brest he bette,
 and sayd; 'Allas! myn honor for aye
 haue I here lost clene this daye.
 1505 Ded wold I be! allas! my name
 shall aye be more henseforthe in shame,
 and I dishonored and repreved,
 and never more shalbe heleved;
 and mad suche sorowe that, in trothe,
 1510 him to behold it was great rothe.
 And so endured the dayes fyftene,
 till that the lordes of an even
 him come, and toulde the reydye wayre,
 and shewed in fewe wordes there,
 1515 how and what wysse they had purueyd
 ffor his estate, vnto him sayde,
 that twentye thousannd knyghtes of name,
 and fortye thousande witheowt blame,
 all come of noble lyne,
 1520 togather in a companye
 were lodged, on a ryvers syde,
 him and his pleasures ther to abyde.
 The prince tho for Joye vprosse,
 and were they lodged were, he goes
 1525 witheout more the same nyght,
 and ther his supper made to dytte,

1498 still HS || t. the HS || weke S — 1499 to. death H —
 1501 thatt H || them S || aret S — 1502 bet S — 1504 here f. H —
 1506 hence HS — 1507 dyshonored H — 1509 swich S — 1511 the f.
 HS || fyfteene H — 1512 that f. HS || lords S || of in H, on S —
 1513 told HS || th. they HS || redy H, ready S u. ö. || were HS —
 1515 a. in w. H || wise HS — 1516 v. and to HS — 1519 fourtie HS
 — 1519 Lygne H, ligine S — 1520 Togider S || compane S — 1521 ryver
 H — 1522 pleasuer HS || there f. H — 1523 vprose HS — 1525 t. that
 S — 1526 th. these S || dighte HS

and withe them boode till it was daye,
 and forthewithe so toke his Jorneye,
 leuinge the streyght, holdinge the large,
 1530 till he come till his noble barge.
 And when this prince, this lusty knyght,
 withe his pepull in armes bright
 was comen, where he thowght to passe,
 and knewe well none abyden was
 1535 behind, but all were there present,
 forthewithe annone all his entent
 he tolde them ther, and made his cryes
thorowe his host that daye twyse,
 comandinge every lyves wight
 1540 ther beinge present in his syght,
 to be the morrowe on the rivage,
 where he begine wold his vioage.
 The morrow come, the crye was kept,
 fewe was ther that night that slepte,
 1545 But trussed and purueyed for *the morowe*.
Faute of shippes was all ther sorrowe,
 for saue the barge, and other two,
 of shippes ther sawe I no *moe*.
 Thus in ther dowbtes as they stode,
 1550 waxinge the see, cominge the flode,
 was cryed; 'To shipe go everye wight.'
 Then was but hye, that hye myght.
 Unto the barge, me thowght, echeon
 they wente, witheout was lefte not one.
 1555 Horse, male, trusse, ne baggage,
 sallet, spere, gardbrace, ne page,

1527 bode HS — 1528 withe f. H — 1530 c. to h. HS —
 1532 people u. ö. HS — 1533 come H || pas S — 1534 abydinge HS
 — 1538 throwghe LS || hoast H, oste S — 1542 b. w.] would take H
 — 1546 th. m.] them all L — 1546 falte H — 1548 more L —
 1549 doubts S — 1550 ffloude H, flood S — 1553 v.] then to H, And
 to S || m. t.] they went H — 1554 t. w.] me thought H || not f. H ||
 o. none H — 1555 baggage HS — 1556 sa.] Salade HS || speare HS

but was loudged and rome Inowghe,
 At wiche shippinge me thought I lowghe,
 and cane to marvell in my thought,
 1560 how ever suche a shipe was wrought,
 for what people that cane increasse,
 ne neuer so thicke might be the presse,
 but all had rome at ther will,
 ther was not one that was lodged yll.
 1565 For as I trow, my selfe the last
 was one that lodged by the mast.
 And where I loked I sawe suche rome,
 as all were lodged in a towne.
 Forthe goethe the shipe, sayd was the crede,
 1570 and on ther knees, for ther good spedde,
 downe kneled everye wight a while,
 and prayed fast vnto the Ile
 they might come in savetye,
 the prince and all the companye,
 1575 withe worshipec and witheout blame,
 or disslander of his name,
 of the *promese* he shuld retorne,
 withein the tyme he did soiorne
 in his land, biddinge his hoost,
 1580 this was ther prayer lest and most.
 To kepe the daye it might not bene,
 that he appoynt had withe the quene,
 to retorne witheowt slouthe,
 and so assured had his trothe.
 1585 For wiche faute, this prince, this *knighte*,
 duringe the tyme slepte not a night,

1567 Lodged HS || roome u. ö. HS || enoughe H — 1561 that f.
 H || encrease HS — 1564 that f. HS — 1566 tha. | and HS — 1569 goth
 S || creed S — 1570 spede H — 1571 knelyd H — 1572 prayd H ||
 v. | that to HS — 1573 t. | The H || saefte H, safety u. ö. S —
 1576 dysclaunder HS — 1577 promyse HS — 1579 bydyng H —
 1581 d. duye it L || been u. ö. S — 1582 apoynted H, appointed S
 — 1585 knigke L, knigte H

suche was his woo and his disease,
for dowbt he shuld the quene displeace.
Forthe goethe the shipe withe suche spede,
¹⁵⁹⁰ right as the prince for his great neade
desyer wolde after his thawghte,
Till it vnto the Ile hime browght,
were in hast opon the saunde,
he and his people toke the land
¹⁵⁹⁵ withe hartes glade and chere light,
weninge to be in heuen that night;
but or they passed had a myle,
enteringe in toward that Ile,
all cladd in blacke withe chere peteus,
¹⁶⁰⁰ a lady wiche never dispeteouse
had be in all her lyfe tofore,
withe sorye chere and harte to tore,
vnto this prince, where he cane ryde,
come and sayde; 'Abyde! abyde!
¹⁶⁰⁵ and haue no hast, but fast retorne,
no reason is ye here soiorne,
for *your* vntrothe hathe vs destroyed.
Woo worthe the tyme we vs alyed
withe you, that ar so sone vntrewe.
¹⁶¹⁰ Allas, the daye that we you knewe!
Allas, the tyme that ye were bore,
for all this land by you is lore!
Accursed be, you hether browght,
for all oure Joye is turned to nowght.
¹⁶¹⁵ Youre accquayntaunce we may complayne'

¹⁵⁸⁸ Doubtinge the quene he should displease H — ¹⁵⁸⁹ goth
S — ¹⁵⁹¹ desire u. ö. S — ¹⁵⁹² u. t. I. h. | hym to the Ile H —
¹⁵⁹³ W. | Where HS || sande u. ö. HS — ¹⁵⁹⁵ harts S — ¹⁵⁹⁷ m. |
while S — ¹⁵⁹⁸ entring S || th. | the H — ¹⁵⁹⁹ clad HS || pityous H,
piteous S u. ö. — ¹⁶⁰⁰ dispytuous H — ¹⁶⁰¹ t. | before HS —
¹⁶⁰⁷ destroyed H, disteried S — ¹⁶⁰⁸ allied S — ¹⁶¹⁰ w. y. | you vs H
— ¹⁶¹³ be he y. HS — ¹⁶¹⁴ turnd S — ¹⁶¹⁵ accquayntaunce u. ö. H,
acquaintance S

wiche is the cause of all oure peine'.
 'Allas! madame,' qd. tho this knight,
 and withe that from his horse he light,
 withe color pale and chekes lene,
 1620 'Allas, what is this for to mene?
 What haue ye sayde, whi be you wrothe?
 You to displease I wold be lothe.
 Knowe ye not well the promese
 I made haue to youre princes,
 1625 wiche to performe is myne entent,
 so mote I sped, as I haue mente,
 and as I am her verye trewe,
 witheowte chaunge or thowght new,
 and also solye her servaunte,
 1630 as creature or man lyvenante
 may be to Ladye or princes,
 for she myn heuen and hole riches
 is, and the ladye of myn hele,
 my worlde's Joye and all my wele.
 1635 What maye this be, wense comes this speche?
 Tell me, madame, I you beseche,
 for sythe the first of my lyvinge,
 was I so fearfull of nothinge,
 as I am now to here you speke.
 1640 Ffor dowbte I feale my harte brecke.
 Say on, madame, tell me your will,
 the remenaunt, is it good or Ill?'
 'Allas,' quod she, 'that you ware bore!
 for for your love this land is lore.

1616 For all our ioye is turnde to payne H — 1619 cheekes S
 — 1621 b. are H — 1623 well f. H || promesse S, promyse H u. ö.
 — 1625 perfourme HS — 1626 might H — 1627 hers H — 1628 change
 u. ö. S || t. love H — 1629 so. fully HS || Servand HS —
 1630 Lyvand HS — 1634 worlds S, wordes L — 1635 whence HS
 — 1637 Sithence H — 1638 So fearefull was I H — 1640 feele u. ö.
 S || F. d. my hart I feare will breake H — 1642 remnant H,
 remnaunt S — 1643 w | were HS

¹⁶⁴⁵ The quene is ded, and that is rothe,
 for sorrow of your great vntrothe;
 of two partes of the lustye rowte
 of ladyes that were here abowte,
 that wonte were to tale and pleye,
¹⁶⁵⁰ and nowe ar ded and clene awaye,
 and vnder earthe tane lodginge newe.
 Alas, that ever ye were vntrewe!
 For when the tyme ye sett was paste,
 the quene to counsell sone in hast,
¹⁶⁵⁵ what was to do and sayd great blame
 your accquayntaunce cause wold and shame,
 and the ladyes of ther avise
 prayed, for nead was to be wisse
 in eschewinge tales and songes,
¹⁶⁶⁰ that by them make culd evell tungen,
 and say they were lyghtlye conquest,
 and prayed to a poore feast,
 and fowle had ther worshipec wayved,
 when so onwyselye they conceyved,
¹⁶⁶⁵ ther riche treasure and ther hele,
 ther famous name and ther wele,
 to put in suche an aventure,
 of wiche the slaunder ever duer
 was lyke, witheowt helpe of apele,
¹⁶⁷⁰ wherefore they nede had of counsell,
 for everye wight of them wold saye
 ther closed Ile an open weye
 was become to every wight,
 and well approved by a knyght,

¹⁶⁴⁷ th. that H — ¹⁶⁴⁸ b. there S — ¹⁶⁴⁹ talk S — ¹⁶⁴⁴ sone
 f. H — ¹⁶⁵⁵ d. done H — ¹⁶⁵⁶ prayd H || wyse HS — ¹⁶⁶⁰ b. on H
 || c. would HS || ill HS || tonge S — ¹⁶⁶⁴ vnwysely HS — ¹⁶⁶⁵ treasurer
 H, treasour S || h. weale H — ¹⁶⁶⁶ w. heale H — ¹⁶⁶⁷ an f. H —
¹⁶⁶⁸ o. In H || t. that H || slaunder S || enduer H — ¹⁶⁶⁹ appeale
 H, appele S — ¹⁶⁷⁰ councele H, counsele S — ¹⁶⁷² closyd H —
¹⁶⁷⁴ appproved S, proved H

1675 wiche he holles! witheowt pesaunse,
 had sone atcheved th'obeysaunce.
 All this was meved at counsell thrise,
 and concludedd daylye twise,
 that bet was dye witheowt blame
 1680 then losse the riches of her name;
 wherefor, the deathes acquayntaunce
 they chese, and leste have ther pleasaunce,
 for dowbte to lyve as repreued,
 in that they you so sone beleved,
 1685 and made ther othes withe one accord,
 that eate ne drinke, ne speke a worde
 they shuld never, but ever wepinge
 Byde in oo place witheout partinge,
 and vse ther dayes in penaunce,
 1690 witheowt desyer of allegiaunce,
 of wiche the trothe, annone, con preve,
 for whi the quene forthe withe her leue
 tooke at them all that were present,
 of her defautes fullye repente,
 1695 and dyed there witheowten more.
 Thus ar we lost for evermore.
 What shuld I more hereof reherse?
 Come on withe me, come se the herse,
 where ye shall se the petiust syght
 1700 that ever yet was shewed to knyght,
 for ye shall se ladyes stand,
 eche withe a great rood in hand,
 clade in blacke, withe visage whight,

1675 ho. | alas HS || paysaunce S, pleasaunce H — 1676 Atcheiued
 had the obeisaunce H — 1678 concluded HS || d. | euery daye H —
 1679 better H — 1680 loose H, lose S || h. | their HS —
 1681 acquataunce L — 1682 choose H || lost H — 1683 a. | aye H —
 1686 drynck H || a f. HS — 1688 oo | a HS — 1690 allegeaunce HS —
 1691 wiche f. H — 1693 at | of H — 1694 f. | beinge H || repentante
 H — 1696 we are H — 1698 comen S || on f. HS || within HS || me
 f. HS || t. | her HS — 1699 pytyoust H, piteous S — 1700 shewd H
 — 1701 stond S — 1702 rod S || i. her h. HS — 1703 cladd u. ð. H || whyte HS

be rydye eche other for to smyte,
 1705 yf any be that will not wepe,
 or who that makes countenance to slepe.
 They be so bet, that also blewe
 they be, as clothe that dyed is newe.
 Suche is ther perfyte repentaunce,
 1710 and thus they kepe ther ordinaunce,
 and woll do ever to the deathe,
 while them induers any brethe.²
 This knyght tho in armes twayne
 this ladye toke, and cone her saynne;
 1715 'Allas, my birthe! wo worthe my lyfe!'
 and even withe that he drewe a knyfe,
 and throwghe gowne, dublet, and shirte,
 he made the blode cume from his hart,
 and sett him downe vppon the grene,
 1720 and full repent and closeyd his eyne,
 and save that once he drew his brethe,
 witheowt more thus he tooke his deathe.
 For wiche cause the lustye hoost,
 wiche in a battayle on the coste,
 1725 at once for sorrowe suche a crye
 con reare, thorowe the companye,
 that to the heven hard was the sowne,
 and vnder the arthe as far downe,
 that wild(e) beastes for *the* feare
 1730 So sodanlye aferde awere,
 that for the doubt, while they might duer,
 they ranne as of ther lyves vnsuer,
 from the woddess vntto the plaine,

1704 be f. HS || each S — 1707 beate H — 1709 perfytt H ||
 repentance S — 1711 to| tyll H — 1713 This The H — 1714 sayne
 HS — 1717 thorowe H || doublet HS || sherte HS — 1720 and¹ With
 H || and² f. HS || closed S, closinge H || eyen H, eene S — 1721 ones
 S || neuer more drawinge breath H — 1722 thus f. H — 1723 hoast S
 — 1724 coast S — 1726 rere S — 1727 soone H — 1728 erth HS ||
 as also H, als S || fferre H, fere S — 1730 beastes S || the f. L —
 1730 afrayd H, afrayed S || were HS — 1732 ran S — 1733 woodes HS || vntto HS

and from the valles, the highe mountayne
 1735 They sowght, and rane as bestes blind,
 that clene forgotten had ther kynd.
 This wo not ceassed, to counsell went
 this lordes, and for that ladye sente,
 and of avise what was to done
 1740 they her besowght she saye wold sone.
 Wepinge full sore, all clad in blacke,
 this ladye saftelye to them spake,
 and sayd; 'My lordes, by my trothe,
 this mischeve holl is of *your* slouthe,
 1745 and yf ye had that Judge wold right,
 a prince that were a very knyght,
 ye that bene of estate eche one
 dye for his faute shulde, one and one;
 for ye hold had the promesse,
 1750 and done that longes to Jentulnes,
 and fulfilled the prince behest,
 this hastye harme had bene a feast,
 and now is unrecoverable,
 and vs a slaunder aye durable;
 1755 wherfore, I saye, as of counsell
 in me is none that may avayle;
 but, yf you list, for remembraunce
 purveye and make suche ordinaunce,
 that the quene, that was so meke,
 1760 withe all her wemen, ded or syke,
 might in your land a chapell haue,
 withe some remembraunce on her grave,

1731 Valeys H, valleyes S — 1735 ranne H || beastes H, beasts
 S — 1736 forgotten HS — 1737 ceased S, ceasyd H — 1738 This These
 S, Those H — 1739 advice H — 1741 blake S — 1743 lords S —
 1744 mischeyf H, mischiefe S || h. i. is all H, it is S — 1747 be H
 — 1748 h thys H — 1749 F. y. And yf he HS || held H —
 1751 fullfild H || pryces H, princes S || heast H — 1752 byn H —
 1753 a. that H — 1757 remeberaunce H — 1760 women HS —
 1761 chappell HS — 1762 remembraunce H || o. of S

shewing her end withe the petye,
 in somne notable olde cetye,
 1765 nighe vnto an highe waye,
 where everye wight might for her praye,
 and for all heres that haue bene trewe.
 And even withe that she chaunged hewe,
 and twise wished after the diathe,
 1770 and syght, and thus passed her brethe.
 Then sayd the lordes of the ooste,
 and so concluded lest and most,
 and they wold ever in houses of thacke
 ther lyves vse, and were but blacke,
 1775 and forsake all ther pleasaunces,
 and turne all Joye to penaunces.
 And bare the ded prince to the barge,
 and named them shuld haue the charge.
 And to the hearse, where laye the quene,
 1780 the remenante went, and downe on knene,
 holdinge ther handes on hight, con crye,
 'Mercy, mercy,' everiche thrye,
 and cursed the tyme that ever slouth
 shuld haue suche masterdome of trothe.
 1785 And to the barge, a longe mile,
 they bere her forth, and in a while
 all the ladyes one and one,
 by companies were browght echeon,
 and past the see and toke the lande,
 1790 and in newe hersses on a saunde
 put and browght were, all annone,

1763 theyr H — 1764 some HS || n. famous H || Cyttye H,
 city S — 1765 a. some H — 1767 and f H || hers HS — 1769 c. her
 h. HS — 1769 the f. H || deathe u. ö. HS — 1770 sighed H || t. so
 H || passyd H — 1771 Lords S — 1772 a. that HS — 1774 v. lede H,
 lead S || weare S — 1775 plesaunce H — 1776 al. theyr H || penaunce
 H — 1778 them who H — 1779 hersse H — 1780 remnant H,
 remnaunt S — 1781 honds S || high S || o. h. Loud H — 1782 every one
 H — 1788 curst H — 1786 bare HS — 1789 passyd H — 1790 herses u. ö. HS

vnto a cety closed withe stone,
 where it had bene vsed aye,
 the kynges of the lannd to leye
 1795 after they reyned in honors,
 and wright was wiche were conquerers,
 in an abbye of nonnes wiche were blace,
 wiche accostomed were to wacke,
 and of vssage rysse eche a night
 1800 to praye for everye lyves wight.
 And as befell as is the gyse,
 ordayned and sayd was the seruice
 of the prince and of the quene,
 as devoutlye as might bene,
 1805 and after that abowght the hercesse,
 many orrysonnes and vearses
 witheowt note full softelye
 sayd were, and full hartelye,
 that all the night till it was daye,
 1810 the peple in the churche cone preye
 vnto the hollye trynite,
 of those sowles to have petye.

And when the night past and ronne
 was, and the newe daye begonne,
 1815 the yonge morrowe withe rayes redd,
 wiche from the sonne over all con spredd,
 attempered cleare was and fayer,
 and made a tyme of holsome ayer,
 befell a wonder case and straunge

1792 closed S, walled H — 1795 it| they H || bene f. H —
 1794 kings S || land HS — 1795 reigned HS — 1796 writte H, writ S
 || was f. H || wi who H || conquerours HS — 1797 abbey HS ||
 Nunnes S || blacke H — 1798 customed H || wake HS — 1799 vsage
 HS || a f. H — 1801 as¹ so HS || guise S — 1802 ordeynde H,
 Ordeint S — 1804 a. d. so sodeynly H || as¹ so S — 1806 Orysons
 HS || a. many verses HS — 1808 a. that fu. HS || heartily S,
 shortly H — 1810 churtch H — 1811 holy HS || Trynytie HS —
 1812 p. mercye H — 1815 red S — 1816 Sunne HS || spred S —
 1817 Atempered HS || clere HS — 1819 wonderous H || strange u. ð. S

¹⁸²⁰ amonge the people, and con chaunge
 sone the worde and every woo
 vnto a Joye, and some to two.
 A byrde, all fethered blewe and grene,
 withe bright arrayes lyke gold betwene,
¹⁸²⁵ as smale thredes over every Joynte,
 all full of collors straunge and cointe,
 vncothe and wonderfull to syghte,
 vppon the quenes herse cone lyghte,
 and songe full lowe and softelye,
¹⁸³⁰ thre songes in his armony, e,
 Unletted of every wight,
 till at the last an aged knyght,
 whiche semed a man in great thought
 lyke as he sett all thinge at nawght,
¹⁸³⁵ withe visage and eyne over wepte,
 and pale, as mane longe vnslepte,
 by the heresses as he stoode,
 withe handelinge of his hood
 vnto a prince that by him past,
¹⁸⁴⁰ made the birde somewhat agast;
 wherefore he rose and lefte his songe,
 and departe from vs amonge,
 and spred his winges for to passe
 by the place he entered was.
¹⁸⁴⁵ And in his hast, shortlye to tell,
 he him hurte, that bacwarde downe he fell
 from a windowe, richelye painte

¹⁸²¹ t. w.] theyr greyf H — ¹⁸²³ fedred S — ¹⁸²⁴ rayes HS ||
 Gould H — ¹⁸²⁵ s. as t. H || thredd H, thred S — ¹⁸²⁶ queynt H
 — ¹⁸²⁹ softlye H — ¹⁸³⁰ songs S || her HS || armony H, harmony
 S — ¹⁸³¹ vnlettyd H — ¹⁸³³ semde H — ¹⁸³⁴ thinges H — ¹⁸³⁵ eyen
 H, ein S || o. w.] all for wepe H, forwept S — ¹⁸³⁶ vnslepe H —
¹⁸³⁷ herse H — ¹⁸³⁸ w. hasty h. HS || hondling S — ¹⁸⁴⁰ bridde S ||
 sumwhat H — ¹⁸⁴¹ he] she HS || her HS — ¹⁸⁴² departed H —
¹⁸⁴³ spredd H, spread S || h.] her HS || wings S — ¹⁸⁴⁴ she H ||
 entred S — ¹⁸⁴⁶ He f. HS || backward S, f. H

withe lyves of many a dyverse saynte,
 and beate his winges and bled faste,
 1850 and of the hurte thus dyed and paste,
 and ley ther well an hower or more,
 till, at the last, of birdes a skore
 come, and sembled at the place
 where the windowe broken was,
 1855 and made suche weymentacyon,
 that petye was to here the son,
 and the werbelinge of ther throtes,
 and the complainte in ther nottes,
 wiche from Joye clene was reversed.
 1860 And of them, on the glasse sone percsyd,
 and in his beke of colours nyne
 an erbe he browght, flowerles, all grene,
 full of smale leves and plaine,
 swerte and longe withe many a vayne,
 1865 and where his fellowe laye thus ded,
 this erbe downe layd by his hede,
 and dressed her full softelye,
 and hange his hede and stode therbye.
 Whiche erbe, in lesse then halfe an owere,
 1870 cone over all knote and after. flower
 full owt and *wexe* rype the seade.
 And right this one an other feede
 wold, in his beake he toke a grayne,
 and in his fellowes beke certayne

1818 W. the l. H || a. f. S || dyverse f. H — 1819 bet S || wings S
 || bledd H — 1851 o. and HS — 1852 briddes S — 1853 semblyd H —
 1855 swiche S || wamentacioun S, Lamentation H — 1856 sowne HS —
 1857 warbles HS || throates H — 1858 A. t. howe they H || compleyned
 H || i. of H || notes S, noates H — 1859 reversyd H — 1860 glas S
 || persed S, persyd H — 1861 beake H || nyene H — 1862 herb
 u. ö. HS — 1863 Leaues HS — 1864 swarte HS — 1865 w. when H
 || felowe H — 1866 hearb u. ö. S || layed H || heade u. ö. H —
 1867 dressid H || h. it HS || softly S, softlye H — 1868 honge HS
 — 1869 w. The H || t. the H — 1870 knitte H, knit S — 1871 wexe
 f. L // seede u. ö. HS — 1872 t. as as H, as S — 1873 a. the HS

¹⁸⁷⁵ yt put, and thus witheyn the thirde
 vp stode, and pruned him the birde,
 wiche dede had be in all oure syght;
 and bothe together forthe ther flyght
 toke singinge frome vs and ther leue,
¹⁸⁸⁰ was none disturbe them wold ne greue.
 And when they perted were and gone,
 Thabbas, the seades sone echeon,
 gathered had and in her hande
 therbes she helde, well avisaunte
¹⁸⁸⁵ the lefe, the sede, the stalke, the flower,
 and sayd yt had a good savor,
 and was no comone herbe to fynde,
 and well approued of vncothe kynde,
 and then other more vertuus.
¹⁸⁹⁰ Who so yt haue myght for to vse
 in his neade, flower, lefe, or graine,
 of ther hele myght be certainge.
 And layd it downe vppon the hersse
 where lay the quene, and con rehersse
¹⁸⁹⁵ eche one to other that they had sene,
 and talinge thus the seade wox grene,
 and on the drye herse con springe,
 wiche methowght a wonder thinge,
 and after that flower an new seade,
¹⁹⁰⁰ of wiche the pepull all toke hede,
 and sayd yt was some great miracle,
 or medicyne more fyne then treacle,
 and were well done there to assaye

¹⁸⁷⁶ proynd H || h. self t. H — ¹⁸⁸¹ wh. | where S || parted HS
 — ¹⁸⁸² Thabbesse S, the abbesse H u. ö. || sowne S — ¹⁸⁸³ Gadred S —
¹⁸⁸⁴ The herbe HS || h. | toke S || advysande H, avisand S — ¹⁸⁸⁵ leaf
 HS — ¹⁸⁸⁶ Saviour HS — ¹⁸⁸⁷ common HS — ¹⁸⁸⁸ vertuose HS —
¹⁸⁸⁹ y. h. | have it S — ¹⁸⁹² h. | helth H || certeyne HS — ¹⁸⁹⁴ reherse
 HS — ¹⁸⁹⁵ that | what H — ¹⁸⁹⁶ talkinge H || wex S, waxt H —
¹⁸⁹⁸ wonderous H, wondrous S — ¹⁸⁹⁹ an | and HS — ¹⁹⁰² fyne
 more HS || Tryacle HS

yf yt might ease in any waye
 1905 the corsses, wiche withe torches lyght
 thay waked had ther all that night.
 Sone were the Lordes there concent,
 and all the pepull therto content,
 withe easye wordes and lyttull fare,
 1910 and made the quenes visage bare,
 wiche shewed was to all abowte;
 wherefore in sowne fell hole the rowte,
 and were so sorye, most and leste,
 that longe of wepinge they not ceased;
 1915 for of ther lord the remembraunce
 vnto them was suche displeasaunce,
 that for to lyve they cauled paine,
 so were they verye trewe and playne.
 And after this, the good abbas
 1920 of the greynes con chesse and dresse
 thre withe her fingers clene and smale,
 and in the quenes mothe be tall,
 one after other full easelye
 she put, and full coninglye;
 1025 wiche sheewed sone suche vertu,
 that preved was the medicyne trewe;
 for withe a smylinge countenaunce
 the quene vprose, and of vsaunce
 as she was wonte, to everye wight
 1930 she made good chere; for wiche syght
 the people knelynge on the stones,
 Thowght they in heuen were sowle and bones.
 Unto the prince where he laye

1905 corsess HS || torch S — 1906 w. maked S, watched H ||
 ther f. H — 1907 s. some S || w. dyd HS || lords S — 1908 therto were H
 — 1911 shewyd H — 1912 swoone H, swoone S || h. all H — 1913 sorry
 S — 1914 ceast HS — 1917 c. a p. S — 1918 w. weee S — 1920 grayne
 HS || chese S, chuse H — 1922 in into H || mouth by tale HS —
 1923 easylye HS — 1924 fyld H — 1925 shewed HS — 1926 medecyne
 u. ö. HS — 1930 cheere S — 1933 Un. and to HS

they went, to make the same assaye.
 1935 And when the quene it vnderstode,
 and how the medicyne was good,
 she prayed she might haue the greynes
 to releve him from the paines
 whiche she and he had bothe endured,
 1940 and to him went, and so him vred,
 that withein a lyttull space,
 Lustye and freshe one lyve he was,
 and in good hele and hole of speche,
 and lowghe and sayd, 'Gramercye, leche!'
 1945 for whiche the Joye throwghe owt the towne
 so great was that the belles sowne
 affrayde the peopull, a Jorneye
 abowte the cetye everye waye,
 and come y, and asked cause and whi,
 1950 they rongen were so stattelelye.
 And after that the quene, thabbas
 made dilligence or theye wolde cease;
 suche that of ladyes sonne a rowte
 suinge the quene was all abowte,
 1955 and cauled by name eche one and tolde,
 was none forgotton yonge ne olde.
 There might mene se Joyes newe,
 when the medicyne fyne and trewe,
 thus restored had every wight,
 1960 as well the ladyes as the knyght,
 vnto *perfit* Joye and hele,
 that flyttinge they were in suche wele,
 as folke that wolde in no wyse

1935 it] that H — 1938 relyeve H — 1940 v.] cured HS —
 1942 o. l.] alyve H — 1944 Laughte H — 1945 thorowout H — 1946 bels S —
 1947 Afrayde H, Afraied S — 1948 w.] where L — 1949 y f. HS — 1950 T.] The H || stately HS — 1952 diligence HS || cesse HS — 1954 s.] Sewing
 S, servinge H — 1955 caulde H — 1956 forgotten HS — 1960 as! So
 HS || Lady H, quene S — 1961 pefyt L — 1962 fletinge HS —
 1963 w.] could H

desyer more perfyte parradyssse.

1965 And thus, when passed was the sorrowe,
 withe mickell Joye sone on the morrowe,
 the kinge, the quene, and everye lord,
 withe all the ladyes by one accorde,
 a generall assemble[ly]

1970 great crye thorowghe the cunterye.
 The whiche after, as ther intende,
 was turned to a parlament,
 where was ordayned and avised
 everye thinge and devised,

1975 that please might to most and lest.
 And ther concluded was the feast
 withe in the Ile to be holde,
 withe full concete of yonge and olde,
 in the same wyse as before

1980 all thinges shulde be witheowten more.
 And shipeden and thether went,
 and into straunge remes sent
 to kinges, quenes, and ducheces,
 to diverse princes and princesses,

1985 of ther linage, and cane praye,
 yf yt lyke them at that daye
 of marriage, for ther sporte,
 come se the Ile and them disporte;
 where shulde be Justes and *turneys*,

1990 and armes done in other wise,
 Signifyinge over all the daye,
 after aprell withe in maye.
 And was avised that ladyes twayne

1964 paradise HS — 1966 mikle S — 1969 genall L || Assembly
 HS — 1970 gret S, gan H || through S || cuntry HS — 1972 parlyamente
 HS — 1976 leest H — 1978 feest u. ö. H — 1989 A.] as S || thinge
 HS — 1981 shipped HS — 1983 kings S || dutchesses HS — 1986 yf]
 That HS || yt might l. HS — 1987 mariage u. ö. S — 1988 came H
 || them] their H — 1989 iousts S || tournaies S, nurneyes L —
 1990 i. o.] diners H || wayes HS — 1991 Signifienge H — 1992 Aprill HS

of goode state and welbe sene,
¹⁹⁹⁵ withe certayne knightes and squiers,
 and of the quenes officers,
 in maner of imbassad,
 withe certeyne leters closed *and* made,
 shuid take the barge and departe,
²⁰⁰⁰ and seke my ladye evyre parte,
 till they her founde for any thinge,
 bothe charged thus quene and kinge,
 and as ther ladye and misteris,
 for to beseke of Jentulnes,
²⁰⁰⁵ at the day ther for to bene,
 and ofte her recomaunde the quene,
 and prayed for all loves to hast,
 for, but she come, all woll be wast,
 and the feast a busynes
²⁰¹⁰ witheout Joye or lustynes;
 and toke them tokenes and god spede
 prayed god send, after ther neade.
 Forthe wente the ladyes and the knightes,
 and were owt *fourteene* dayes and nightes,
²⁰¹⁵ and browght my ladye in ther barge,
 and had well sped and done the charge;
 whereof the quene so hartelye glad
 was, that in sothe shuche Joyes she hadd
 when the shipe approached lannde,
²⁰²⁰ that she my ladye on the sannde
 met, and in armes so constrayne,
 that wonder was beholde them twayne,

¹⁹⁹⁴ estate HS || beseyne HS — ¹⁹⁹⁵ knights S — ¹⁹⁹⁷ manner
 HS || o. an i. HS || embassade S, Imbassage H — ¹⁹⁹⁸ letters S, lres H
 — ²⁰⁰⁰ l. in e. H || every HS — ²⁰⁰² t.] haue y^e H, haue S —
²⁰⁰⁵ o.] after H || recommaund S, recomend H — ²⁰⁰⁷ prayes HS —
²⁰⁰⁸ w.] would H — ²⁰¹¹ tokens HS || good HS — ²⁰¹² prayd HS || g. to s.
 H — ²⁰¹⁶ s.] held H || t.] theyr HS — ²⁰¹⁷ heartily S — ²⁰¹⁸ so.] soule H
 || ioye HS || had HS — ²⁰¹⁹ aproched H — ²⁰²⁰ o.] in H — ²⁰²¹ mett
 H || ar. dyd. s. H — ²⁰²² wa. to b. H

whiche to my dome duringe *twelue* oures,
 nether for heat ne watery showers
 2025 departed not, ne companye
 savinge themselfe bode none them bye,
 but gave them leaysure at ther ease,
 to reherse Joye and disease,
 after the pleasure and corrages
 2030 of ther yonge and tender ages;
 And after withe many a knyght
 browght were, where as for that nyght,
 they perted not, for to pleasaunce
 consent was hart and countenance
 2035 bothe of the quene and my mistris,
 this was that night ther busynes.
 And one the morrowe withe huge route,
 this prince of lordes him abowte,
 come and to my ladye sayd
 2040 that of her cominge well appaide
 he was, and full conninglye
 her thannked and full hertelye,
 and lowghe and smyled and sayd; 'I wis,
 that was in dowbte in suerty es.'
 2045 And comaunde do dilygence,
 and spare for neyther golde ne spence,
 but make redye, for one the morrowe
 weddid, withe seynt John to borowe,
 he wold be, witheouten more,
 2050 and let them wytt them lesse and more.

2023 doome H — 2024 They ne lett for heate nor Showers H || neither
 S || watry shoures S — 2025 nor d. H || ne no S, f. H — 2026 bo. but S ||
 Themselues alone *and* none by H — 2027 g. toke H || laysour S —
 2028 disease HS — 2029 corages H, courages S — 2033 parted HS — 2034 con.
 content HS — 2035 a. of m. HS || misteris H, maistresse S — 2038 t.
 The H || lords S — 2039 l. and s. H — 2040 c. glad and w. LHS ||
 apayd HS — 2042 He her H — 2043 laught H || smyld H — 2044 s. saefty
 ys H — 2045 comaunded HS || do all maner of H — 2046 And not
 to spare for gould or Spence H — 2047 B. And H — 2048 wedded S
 — 2049 would he H — 2050 and¹ f. H || th.² this HS || lese S

The morowe come, and the seruice
of marriage in suche wyse
sayd was, that with more honor
was neuer prince ne connqueror
2055 wedd, ne withe suche companye
of gentulnes in chivalrye,
ne of ladyes so great rowtes,
ne so besene, as all abowghtes
they were there, I certefye
2060 you and my lyffe witheout lye.
And the feast holde was in tentes,
as to tell you myne intent is,
in a rome, a large playne
vnder a wood in a champayne,
2065 betwene a ryver and a well,
where neuer had abby ne sell
ben, ne kyrke, house, ne village.
in tyme of any manes age.
And dured thre monethes the feast
2070 in one estate, and neuer ceste
from earlye the ryssinge of the sune
till the daye spent was and rune,
in Justinge, dauncesinge, and lustines,
and all they sowned to gentulnes.
2075 And, as me thowght, the second morowe,
when endid was all old sorrowe,
and in suertye everye wight
had withe his ladye slepte a nyght,
the prince, the quene, and all the feast,
2080 vnto my ladye made requeste,
and her besowght and ofte prayed

2052 s. a w. S — 2054 conquerour HS — 2058 aboutes HS —
2059 certify HS — 2060 a.] on HS || withouten HS — 2061 was hold H
|| tentis S — 2066 Betwixt S — 2066 abbey HS — 2067 Ben f. H ||
kyrck H — 2068 mans HS — 2069 months S — 2070 ceast HS —
2072 yronne S, done H — 2073 daunsyng HS — 2074 th.] that HS — 2076 ended
S — 2078 a.] all H — 2079 fest S — 2080 l.] misteris H — 2081 oft and prayd H

to mewardes to be well paied,
 and consyther myne olde trothe,
 and one my paines to haue rothe,
 2085 and me accepte to her seruice
 in suche forme and in suche wyse,
 that we bothe myght be as one,
 thus prayde the quene and everyechone.
 And for ther shuld be no naye,
 2090 they stinte Justinge all a daye,
 to praye my ladye and requier
 be content and owt of feare,
 and withe good hart make frindlye chere,
 and sayd yt was an happye yere;
 2095 at wiche she smyled and sayd; 'I wis
 I trow well he my seruaunte is,
 and wold my welfare, as I trist,
 so wold I his, and wolde he wist
 how, and I knew his trothe
 2100 contynewe wold witheout slouthe,
 and be suche as ye here reporte,
 restreyntyng bothe corrage and sport,
 and couthe consent at youre request
 to be named of *your* feast,
 2105 and do after *your* vsaunce,
 in obeyinge *your* plesaunce.
 At *your* request, thus I concent
 to please you in youre entent,
 as eke the soueraynge above
 2110 comaunded hathe me for to love,
 and before other him prefarre,

2082 mewards S || apaied S, apayd H — 2083 consyder HS —
 2086 in² f. HS — 2088 praied S — 2091 requere S — 2092 To b. H —
 2094 y. that H || a. a H — 2097 trust H — 2099 and f. H ||
 knowe H || k. that h. HS — 2100 continue S — 2102 restayninge L —
 2103 an. I HS — 2104 namyd H — 2106 in f. H || obeyenge H —
 2107 t. this S — 2109 as and HS || Soueraine S, Soueraigne lord
 a. H — 2110 hathe f. H — 2111 prefferre H, prefer S

agaynst wiche prince may be no warr,
 for his power over all reynegthe,
 that other wold for nowght him paynethe,
 2115 and sythe his will and yours is one,
 contrarye in me shalbe none.
 Tho, as me thougth, the promesse
 of marriage before the messe
 desyred was of every wight
 2120 to be made the same nyght,
 to put away all maner dowbtes
 of everye wyght there abowtes,
 and so was do. And one the morrow,
 when every thougth and every sorrowe
 2125 dislodged was owt of myne harte,
 withe everye wo and every smarte,
 vnto a tente prince and princesse,
 me thougth me browght *and* my misteris,
 And sayd we were at full age
 2130 there to conclud our marriage,
 withe ladyes, knyghtes, and squiers,
 and a great hoost of mynistres,
 withe instrumentes and soundes diuerse,
 that longe were here you to reherse,
 2135 wiche tente was churche perochiall,
 ordeyned it was in especill
 for the feast and for the sacre,
 where arshebyshope and archedyaker
 sunge full owt the seruice,
 2140 after the custome and the gyse,
 and the churches ordinaunce;

2112 w. p. | whome H || werre H, wer S — 2113 reigneth HS —
 2114 Who otherwise would in vayne hym peyneth H — 2115 yors H
 — 2116 mese S, masse H — 2121 douts S — 2127 t. the p. L —
 2128 brought me HS || mi. | mris H — 2131 knights S — 2132 hoast
 H || mynysters HS — 2133 soundes S — 2134 you f. HS — 2136 Ordaint S ||
 it was f. HS || especyall H, especiall S — 2138 Archbyshopp H, -shop
 S || Archdiacre HS — 2139 songe HS — 2140 guise S — 2141 church his H

and after that to dyne and daunce
 browght were we, vnto diverse pleyes,
 And for oure spede eache withe prayse,
 2145 and merrie was most and lest,
 and sayd amended was the feast,
 and where right glad ladye and lord
 of the marriage and thaccorde.
 and wished vs hartes pleasaunce,
 2150 Joye, hele, and continuaunce,
 and to the minsterelles made request,
 that in increasyng of the feast,
 thay wold tuche ther[e] cordes,
 and withe some newe Joyeux accordes
 2155 meve the pepull to gladnes,
 and prayden of all gentulnes,
 eche to paine him for the daye
 to shew his conninge and his pleye.
 Tho begane sowndes marvelous,
 2160 and intuned withe accordes Joyeux
 roundes abowte all the tentes,
 withe thousanndes of instrumentes,
 that everye wyght to daunce him pained,
 to be merye was none that fayned,
 2165 wiche so me trowbeled in my slepe,
 that from my bed forthe I lepe,
 weninge to be at the feast;
 but when I wocke all was ceaste,
 for ther was ladye ne creature,

2143 vn.] and to HS — 2144 w.] wight H || prayes HS —
 2146 am.] concluded H — 2147 w.] were HS — 2148 wisht H || hearts
 S — 2150 contynewance H — 2151 mynstrells H, minstrils S —
 2152 encreasinge HS — 2153 touth H, touch S || their HS — 2154 newe
 f. H — 2155 Moove S — 2157 h.] them HS || t.] y^t H — 2159 sowdes
 L, sownes S || merueylous H, meruelous S — 2160 and f. HS ||
 entuned HS || ac.] notes H — 2161 round HS — 2162 thousands
 S, thousand H — 2163 h.] them S, f. H — 2164 And to H || merry
 HS — 2165 so] Sowne HS || troubled HS — 2166 fr.] fro S —
 2168 woke u. ö. HS || seast S — 2169 w.] nas S

- 2170 save one the walles old portrature
of horsemen, hawkes, and houndes,
and hurte deare full of woundes,
Some lyke bytton, some hurtte with shott,
and as my dreame semed that was not.
- 2175 And when I wocke and knew the trothe,
had ye sene, of verye rothe
I trow ye wold haue wepte a wecke,
for never man yt halfe so sike
escaped, I wene, withe the lyfe,
- 2180 and was for faute that sword ne knyfe
I find myght, my lyve tabrege,
ne thinge that carued, ne had edge,
wherewithe I might my wofull peines
haue voyd, withe bleding of my veynes.
- 2185 Lo! here my blysse, Lo! here my payne,
whiche to my lady I complayne,
and grace and mercy her requier,
to ende my wo and besy fere,
and me accepte to her seruice,
- 2190 after her pleasaunce in suche wise,
that of my dreame the substaunce
might turne once to cognisaunce,
and cognisaunce to very preve
by full concent and good leave,
- 2195 or else witheowten more I pray,
that this night, or yt be daye,
I mote vnto my dreame retorne,

2170 pourtrayture H, portraiture S — 2178 L light H || bitten HS || hurt HS || shot S — 2174 nott H — 2175 wake S — 2176 *and* ye had HS — 2178 f was H || y yet S, f. H — 2179 I wene, that scaped with Lief H, I went escaped with the life S — 2180 a. it w. H — 2181 f. ne m. HS || tabridge S, to Abredge H — 2182 kerned HS — 2184 voyded HS || bleeding S — 2186 I do c. HS — 2187 require S — 2188 busy HS — 2190 p will H, service S || s. a w. H || w aise S — 2194 a of HS || leue HS — 2195 without S || w. m. wth full might H — 2197 m might H

and slepinge so, forthe ay soiorne
 abavte the Ile of pleasaunce,
 2200 vnder my ladyes obeysaunce,
 in her servise and in suche wyse,
 as yt please her may to devise,
 and grace once to be accepte,
 like as I dremed when I slepte,
 2205 and duer a thouusannd yeres *and* tene
 in his good grace, amen! amen!

Explicit.

Ffayrest of fayer, and goodleste on lyve,
 all my secre to you I playne *and* shreve,
 requiringe grace and of all my complainte,
 2210 to be heled or martered as a saynt.
 Ffor by my trothe I swere, and by this booke,
 ye may bothe hele and slaye me with a looke.

Go forthe myn owne trew harte innocent,
 and withe humblesse do thine obseruaunce,
 2215 And to thi lady on thi knes present
 thi servise new, and thinke how great pleasaunce
 hit is to lyve vnder the obeysaunce
 of her that may withe her[e] lookes softe
 geve the the blisse that thou desyers ofte.

2220 Be diligent, awacke, obye, and dread,
 and not to wilde of thi countenaunce,
 but meke and glade, and thi nature fead,

2198 f.] still H — 2199 about HS — 2202 may please her H —
 2203 ones S — 2205 yere HS || tenne H — 2206 h.] her HS || gr.] wil
 S — Explicit Ffinis H, f. S — 2207 goodliest HS || on] a H —
 2208 shryve HS — 2209 and f. H || all f. HS || my f. S — 2210 healyd
 H || martyred H — 2211 sweare S — 2212 slea HS || a] your H —
 2214 humblesnes H || thy H || o.] obeysaunce H — 2215 knees HS —
 2216 gret H — 2217 thobeisance S — 2218 loks u. ö. S — 2219 the⁴] thee
 S || the⁴] y^t H || desyrest u. ö. HS — 2220 obey HS || drede S —
 2222 meeke S || feed S

to do eche thinge that may her pleasaunce,
when you shall slepe, haue ay in remembraunce
²²²⁵ the image of her whiche may withe lookes softe
geue the the blysse that thou desyers ofte.

And yf so be that thou her name finde
writton in booke, or else vppon a wall,
looke that thou do, as servaunte trew *and* kynde,
²²³⁰ thine obeysaunce, as she were there withe all.
ffayninge in love is breadinge of a fall
from the grace of her, whose lookes softe
may geve the the blisse that thou desyers ofte.

Ffinis *)

Ye that this balad red shall,
I pray you kepe you from the fall.

²²²³ m. h. moves for H — ²²³⁴ thou shalte HS || remeberaunce
H, remembrance S — ²²²⁵ soft f. H — ²²²⁶ the¹ f. H — ²²²⁸ a f. L —
²²²⁹ do f. S — ²²³¹ ffor feignyng H || bredinge H, breeding S —
²²³³ the¹ f. S — Ffinis (durchstrichen) f. HS — ²²³⁴ read S

*) Im L durchstrichen.

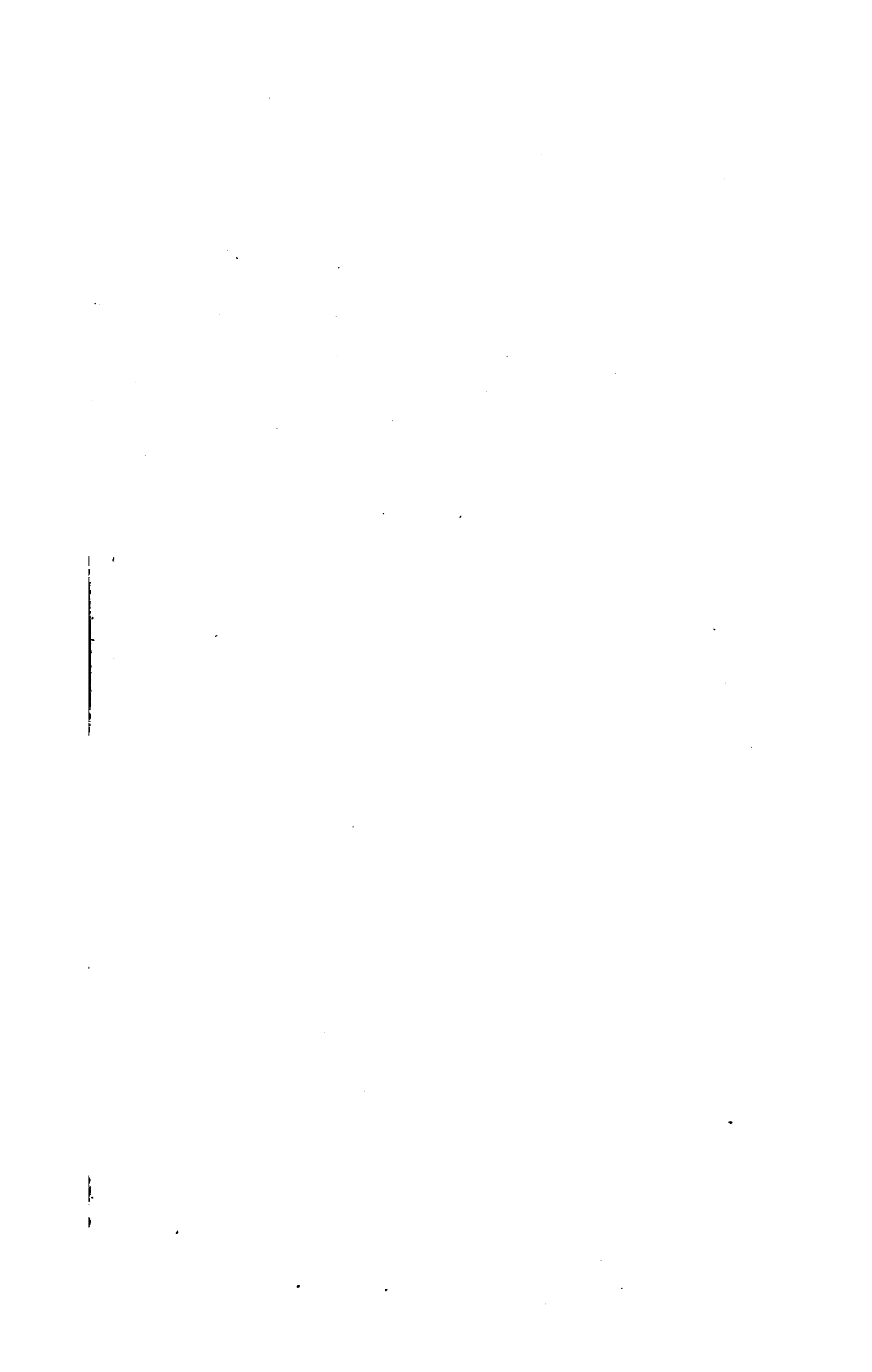
Am schluss: "Finis qd Chaucer" in derselben hand wie der
schreiberspruch. L.

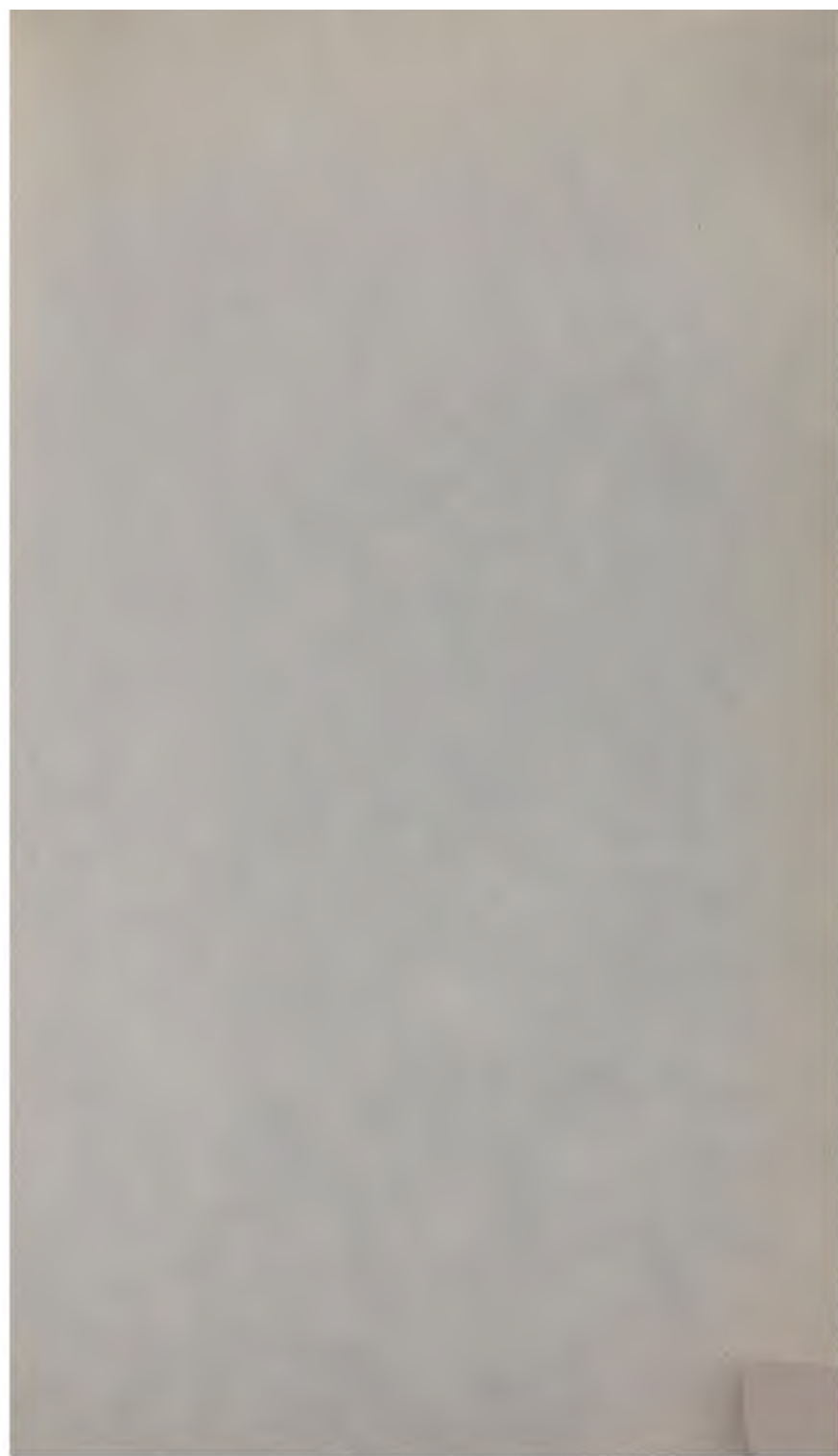


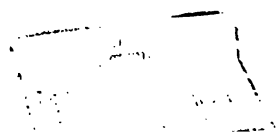
Addenda

²⁸ that tha H — ³⁴ the² f. H — ⁵⁵ o. aske H — ⁷⁴ leuels S —
⁸² floures u. ö. S — ¹⁸⁰ m. y. me H — ¹⁹⁷ trowth L — ²⁰¹ affrayd L —
³⁶¹ beutie L — ⁴⁴⁹ wholly S. u. ö. — ⁵¹⁵ cheeke u. ö. H — ⁵¹⁹ thinge
L — ⁵²⁶ yonde f. HS || in a s. HS — ⁵³⁹ suche L — ⁵⁵³ sayd HS
— ⁵⁷³ y. you S — ⁶³² b. her a. H — ⁷⁵³ ne the HS — ⁷⁵⁹ w. there
HS — ⁷⁸⁵ to he HS — ⁸²³ ffrendlye H, friendly S — ⁸⁶¹ was me
HS — ⁸⁷⁶ withe L — ⁸⁸⁹ worldeles L — ⁹³³ east HS — ⁹³⁷ o. euer
H — ⁹⁵⁶ bynne u. ö. H — ⁹⁷⁷ Romance HS — ¹⁰⁰⁶ excused HS —
¹⁰⁵⁴ rysinge HS — ¹⁰⁷⁸ seruauunates L — ¹²⁶⁶ counsell L — ¹¹³⁹ a.
of f. HS — ¹³⁵⁵ o f. HS — ¹³⁸⁵ or and HS — ¹⁵⁷⁹ bydyng HS —
¹⁶⁵⁰ And¹ f. HS — ¹⁶⁹⁸ w. there p. HS —

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